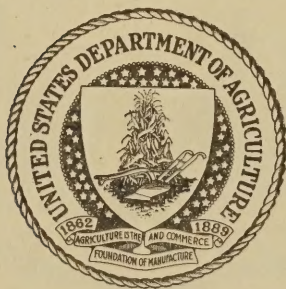




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THE
ASSAM FOREST MANUAL.

BY

A. L. HOME,
CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

TO WHICH IS APPENDED

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FOREST DEPARTMENT IN ASSAM.

BY

T. J. CAMPBELL,
DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.



Published under the authority of the Chief Commissioner.

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PREFACE.

PARTS I and II of this Manual contain Regulations issued by the Government of India and rules framed under the same by the Local Administration.

2. The “Manual of Executive Rules and Orders in force in Assam” has been adopted as a model in the compilation of Part III of the Manual, and has been largely drawn upon in matters of general application. The quotations are verbatim, unless modifications were necessitated by departmental peculiarities. Tables of references to rules and orders quoted are inserted after Part III.* As a copy of the Manual of Executive Rules is in every divisional office, a general reference only has been made in Part III to the following subjects therein dealt with :

- (i) Apprentices, employment of.
- (ii) Civil Suits.
- (iii) *Gazettes*, method of dealing with.
- (iv) Memorials and appeals.
- (v) Office routine.
- (vi) Public officers.
- (vii) Stationery.
- (viii) Stores.

3. Orders on certain of these subjects, of special application, forwarded under a Chief Commissioner’s circular, have been incorporated in the Forest Manual. The same method has been pursued, where rules framed agree wholly or in part with those found in the following books :

- (i) Indian Telegraph Guide.
- (ii) Forest Department Code.
- (iii) Civil Account Code.
- (iv) Civil Service Regulations.

* The tables are carried up to 31st December 1897.

4. The authority quoted for the Rules is, almost invariably, that from which the orders originally emanated, and such subsidiary instructions or modifications, applicable to circumstances, which accompanied or followed such orders. Portions of instructions, obsolete or unsuitable, have been omitted or modified according to existing conditions, whilst in other cases they have been expanded. No orders of the Conservator of Forests of earlier date than 1882 have been quoted. Where any apparent difference exists between original orders and these Rules, the latter should be accepted as the final authority.

5. As an appendix to this Manual is a Brief History of Forest Administration in Assam, compiled by Mr. T. J. Campbell, Deputy Conservator of Forests.

A. L. HOME,
Conservator of Forests, Assam.

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS.

PART I.—LOCAL REGULATIONS.

	PAGE.
1. The Gáro Hills Regulation, I of 1882 . . .	1—3
2. The Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891 . . .	3—30

PART II.—RULES HAVING THE FORCE OF LAW.

A. RULES UNDER THE GÁRO HILLS REGULATION—	
1. Licenses in forest matters in the Gáro Hills . . .	33—34
2. Powers under the Gáro Hills Regulation . . .	34
B. RULES UNDER THE ASSAM FOREST REGULATION—	
1. Drift timber	34—35
2. Imported forest produce—Duty on	35—37
3. India-rubber—Collection and removal of	37—39
4. Ditto —Import and export	39—41
5. Powers of Forest-Officers and the grant of rewards	42—43
6. Protection of reserved forests from fire	43—44
7. Reserved trees	44—45
8. River Rules	45—54
9. Sporting Rules for reserved forests	54—55
10. Transport of forest produce	55—56
11. Unclassed State forests	56—62

PART III.—EXECUTIVE ORDERS RELATING TO FORESTS.

SECTION I.—ACCOUNTS AND BUDGETS.

RULE.	PAGE.
1. Expenditure in excess of Budget grants	65
2. Conditions under which applications for additional grants are to be made ...	66
3. Revised estimate not acceptable as applications for additional grants ...	67
4. The necessity for scrutinising and of economical control of expenditure ...	68
5. Personal responsibility of expending officer	69
6. The danger of over or under estimating expenditure or receipts ...	69
7. Survey estimates to be obtained from proper authorities before incorporation in Budget estimates	71

SECTION I.—ACCOUNTS AND BUDGETS—*concluded.*

RULE.	PAGE.
8. Rules in applying for sanction to expenditure	69
9. Special sanction does not authorize excesses over Budget allotments	71
10. Treasury accounts with the Forest Department	71
11. Remittances to treasuries and disbursers by money orders	71
12. Remittances and non-retention of revenue	72
13. Cash chests	72
14. Refunds	72
15. Receipts on printed forms	72
16. Adjustment of charges with other Government Departments	72
17. Charge allowance	73
18. Sanction of expenditure	73
19. Expenditure on experiments	73
20. Responsibility of officers for public money	73
21. Unauthorized funds	73
22. Life insurance premia	73
23. Rewards and scholarships	74
24. Alterations in classification prohibited	74
25. Revenue from timber under litigation	74
26. Establishment scale	74
27. Advances to Forest School students	74
28. Final expenditure	74
29. Instructions for the preparation of Forms Nos. 9, 10 and 30	74
30. Inspection of range cash account	74
31. Vouchers for advances	74
32. Note at foot of cash account	75
33. Classification of items of revenue and expenditure in forest accounts under sub-heads	75
34. <i>Gurkati</i> commission	89
35. Certain fines to be credited to Law and Justice	91
36. Elephant tusks	91
37. Stone ballast	91
38. Grazing dues	91
39. Fisheries	90
40. Tea boxes	91
41. Silk worms	91
42. Services rendered by and to other Departments	91

SECTION II.—BUILDINGS.

1. Buildings to be kept clean	91
2. Precautions against fire	91
3. Sanction to construction and alteration of buildings	92
4. Building advances	92
5. Report to accompany application for building advances	92

SECTION III.—CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES AND POWERS.

RULE.	PAGE.
1. Bail in forest cases	93
2. Civil suits	93
3. Government servant summoned to give evidence	93
4. Power to compel attendance	93
5. Definition of "case" in the matter of forest offences	94
6. Pleadings	93
7. Prosecutions in which Government is concerned	93
8. Rewards for detection of smuggled rubber	93
9. Special rewards by Conservator	95
10. Register for forest offences compounded	93
11. Criminal offences committed by Forest subordinates	93
12. Appeals against convictions in Magistrates' courts in cases in which Government Departments are interested	93

SECTION IV.—CONCESSIONS AND FREE GRANTS.

1. Limit of temporary privileges	95
2. Timber concessions	96
3. Conservators' powers as to free grants	93
4. Penalty for ryots not taking out home consumption permits	93
5. Right-holders' and settlement-holders' free grants	93
6. Quantities of free grants to be entered on permits	93
7. (a) Concession granted in Mangaldai Subdivision	93
(b) Do. do. in North Lakhimpur	97
(c) Do. do. in Sylhet	93
(d) Do. do. in North Cachar.	93
(e) Do. do. in Sibsagar	93
(f) General	98
8. Shooting in reserved forests, Naga Hills district	93
9. Rights of Government in land or produce	93

SECTION V.—CONTRACTS.

1. Contractors to pay royalty through the Public Works Department	99
2. Power to execute contracts	93
3. Advances to contractors	100

SECTION VI.—ELEPHANTS.

1. Elephants in religious processions	100
2. Sick elephants	93
3. Elephant gear	93
4. Elephant tarpaulins	93
5. Safe keeping of elephants	93
6. Alteration in numbers of elephants	101
7. Elephant charges	93

SECTION VII.—EXAMINATIONS.

1. Departmental examinations	101
2. Fitness of candidates for the Forest School	93
3. Rules for admission to and instruction at the Forest School	102

SECTION VIII.—FOREST SCHOLARSHIPS.

RULE.	PAGE.
1. Forest Scholarships	102

SECTION IX.—FOREST SETTLEMENTS.

1. Procedure in Forest Settlement cases	104
2. Government of India's Circular No. 5-F., dated 27th April 1887	105
3. Inspector General's memorandum	106
4. Instructions for Forest Settlement Officers in Assam	113

SECTION X.—LEASES.

1. Currency of forest leases	113
2. Forms of leases—Agar mahals	"
3. Ditto Cane mahals	115
4. Ditto Lac mahals	117
5. Ditto Sylhet river forests	"

SECTION XI.—LEAVE.

1. Leave to officials, who are volunteers	119
2. Authority for leave, etc.	"
3. Report of return to duty	120
4. Addition of holidays to leave	"
5. Absence from district during holidays	"
6. Special permission necessary to add authorized holidays to leave	"
7. Addresses while on leave	"
8. Casual leave	"
9. Privilege leave not to be granted in the cold weather	121
10. Leave on medical certificate	"
11. Medical certificates	"
12. Last pay certificates	"
13. Leave to subordinates in special circumstances	122
14. Applications for leave and reports of return to duty, in the case of subordinate officers	"

SECTION XII.—NON-GAZETTED AND MINISTERIAL OFFICERS.

1. Abolition of appointments on reduction of establishment	123
2. Departmental punishments	"
3. Dismissal and removal	"
4. Procedure prior to dismissal	125
5. Employment in two offices, etc.	"
6. Officers belong to the office	"
7. Ministerial officers dealing with money or accounts	126
8. Trading and taking farms forbidden	"
9. Acquisition of property	"
10. Bidding for waste-land grants forbidden	127
11. Borrowing money forbidden	"
12. Insolvency	"
13. Indebtedness in other cases	"

SECTION XII.—NON-GAZETTED AND MINISTERIAL OFFICERS—*concluded.*

RULE.	PAGE.
14. Official information not to be divulged ...	127
15. Apprentices in offices ...	128
16. Register of relations ...	”
17. Extensions of service of non-gazetted officers ...	”
18. Compulsory retirement ...	”
19. Employment of pensioned native soldiers ...	”
20. Descriptive rolls of pensioners ...	129
21. Security of officers on probation ...	”
22. Forms of security bond and mortgage deed ...	”
23. Registration of security bonds ...	”
24. Kind of security to be taken ...	”
25. Precautions with savings bank security deposits ...	”
26. Promissory notes to be sent to Comptroller ...	”
27. Precautions regarding securities and deductions from pay to form security fund...	130
28. Amounts to be deposited as cash security by subordinates ...	131
29. Status of forest rangers ...	”
30. Award of chevrons ...	”
31. Eligible for medals ...	”
32. Communications to the Director of the Forest School ...	”
33. Physical fitness for employment of applicants ...	132
34. Discharged subordinates from one Division not to be employed in another ...	”
35. Transfers and postings of subordinates ...	”
36. Pay of clerical staff ...	”
37. Prohibits divisional clerks and others from communicating direct with the Superintendent of the Conservator's office ...	”
38. Service books ...	133
39. Only recorded censure or praise to be entered in service books ...	”
40. Establishment roll ...	”
41. New appointments to be on probation ...	”

SECTION XIII.—OFFICE ROUTINE.

1. Forest year ...	133
2. Form of letters ...	”
3. Arrangement in envelopes ...	”
4. Replies to be prompt... ..	134
5. Reports to be complete ...	”
6. General office routine ...	”
7. Consecutive numbers of letters and divisional index ...	”
8. Correspondence between Deputy Commissioner and Forest officers ...	”
9. Copies of correspondence to be forwarded as enclosures to letters ...	”
10. Publication of notices, etc. ...	”
11. Vernacular notices ...	135
12. Gazettes ...	”
13. Books to be in one place ...	”
14. Catalogue of books ...	”
15. Removal of books ...	”

SECTION XIII.—OFFICE ROUTINE.—*concluded.*

RULE.	PAGE.
16. Charge of library	135
17. Inspections by the Chief Commissioner	"
18. Misuse of Government stationery	136
19. Stock book of stationery	"
20. Stationery to be kept on shelves, etc.	"
21. Use and care of stationery, etc.	"
22. Classes of State telegrams	"
23. Brevity desirable	"
24. Prepaid messages	"
25. Telegrams to places off the line	137
26. Check on use of telegrams	"
27. Cases of great urgency	"
28. Telegrams regarding leave, etc.	"
29. Short addresses	"
30. Cases and Files	"
31. Destruction of documents	138
32. Orders in original or copies not to be furnished to others	139
33. Postage stamps	"
34. Economy in postage	"
35. Vernacular words and dates	"
36. Manuals	"
37. Correction slips to office Manuals	141
38. Verbal instructions	"

SECTION XIV.—PENSIONS, FUNDS, PRIVILEGES, ETC.

1. Forest officers studying on the Continent	141
2. Forest Officers' Provident Fund	"
3. Speedy settlement of pension claims	"
4. Grant of license to subordinates to carry arms	"
5. Warning to sportsmen	"
6. Classified List of Forest Officers	142

SECTION XV.—PUBLIC OFFICERS.

1. Gazetted officers	143
2. Conviction of Government officials	"
3. Medical attendance	143
4. General rules	"
5. Memorials and appeals	"

SECTION XVI.—REPORTS, RETURNS, INDENTS, ETC.

1. Abstract of Departmental reports	143
2. Divisional monthly progress reports	144
3. Annual reports	145
4. Range office inspections	"
5. Demarcation statements	146
6. Stationery indents	"

SECTION XVI.—REPORTS, RETURNS, INDENTS, ETC.—*concluded.*

RULE.	PAGE.
7. Medical indents	147
8. Seizure and disposal of forest produce	"
9. Purchaser's timber and forest produce return	"
10. Fines and permit inspections to be recorded in monthly progress reports	"
11. Quarterly establishment list	"
12. Submission of returns with dates and indents for Forest Survey Maps	148
13. Nomenclature of economic products	150
14. Marking hammers	151

SECTION XVII.—RESERVED AND UNCLASSIFIED STATE FORESTS.

1. Settlements made previous to the introduction of the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878	151
2. Encroachments on reserve boundaries	"
3. Disforestation of forest areas	"
4. Amended description of boundaries	152
5. Procedure in proposing to reserve areas adjoining tea estates, etc.	153
6. Form for proposal to reserve areas	"
7. Acquisition of land	"
8. Notifications of changes to be sent to the Superintendent of Forest Surveys	"
9. Troops in reserved forests	154
10. Compilation of notes for forest purposes	"
11. Timber marking in the forest	155
12. Trees not to be felled as poles or converted into firewood and charcoal	"
13. Dead wood	"
14. Classification of fellings	"
15. Drift wood	156
16. Rates of royalty to be levied on forest produce from reserved forests...	"
17. Charcoal	161
18. Labour	"
19. Power to import labour	"
20. Forest areas escaping fires	"
21. Record of fire-protection results	"
22. Responsibility of certain officers in forest matters	163
23. Registration of forest produce at Dhubri	164
24. Cameras for forest purposes	"
25. Nomenclature of plants	"
26. Supply of information on economic products	164
27. Connection of the Commissioner with the Forest Department	"
28. Relations of Forest officers to District officers	"
29. Unclassified State forests	168
30. Management of unclassified State forests	"
31. Instructions to mauzadars should bear the Divisional Officer's signature	170
32. Inspection of home consumption and other permit books	171
33. Seeding of trees and flowering of bamboos	"
34. Royalty for timber on land taken up for ordinary or special cultivation	"
35. Factors for volume of trees, etc.	172

SECTION XVIII.—SPECIMENS—ENTOMOLOGICAL AND OTHERS.

RULE.	PAGE.
1. Memorandum on killing, preserving and transporting insects ...	174
2. Collection and preparation of insect specimens enjoined ...	175
3. Forest Rangers to be utilized in collecting insect specimens ...	175
4. Inspector General of Forests will control investigations ...	175
5. Botanical specimens ...	175

SECTION XIX.—SUPPLY OF FOREST PRODUCE TO OTHER GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENTS ...	177
-----------------	-----

SECTION XX.—STORES, TOOLS, PLANT AND UNIFORMS.

1. Stores ...	178
2. Sanctions for purchase ...	179
3. Ammunition indents ...	179
4. Uniform registers ...	180
5. Carriage of uniforms... ..	180
6. Prescribed uniform ...	183
7. Brass badges ...	183
8. Elephant gear ...	183
9. Chubb's locks ...	183
10. Carriage of Government stores ...	183

SECTION XXI.—TIMBER VALUATION ON LAND TAKEN UP FOR CULTIVATION.

1. Rules for grants of land for special and ordinary cultivation ...	183
2. Survey of waste-land grants and enumeration of trees ..	189
3. (i) Procedure to be adopted in valuing timber on waste-land grants ...	190
(ii) Object and general procedure of valuation ...	191
(iii) Description of the forest ...	191
(iv) Proportion of area of sample to area of forest ...	191
(v) Posting of enumerators ...	191
(vi) Method of measuring trees ...	191
(vii) Method of enumeration ...	191
(viii) Method of registering trees ...	192
(ix) Application of the results of the enumeration to the whole area of the forest ...	192
(x) Statement showing results of enumeration ...	192
4. Check by Divisional Officers ...	194
5. Expenditure on assessing timber valuations ...	194

SECTION XXII.—TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE AND TOURS.

1. Diaries and travelling allowance bills of officers ...	194
2. Officers to travel as ordinary passengers by mail steamers ...	195
3. Travelling by steamer or launch ...	195
4. Meals on steamers ...	195
5. Journeys to give evidence in Court ...	195
6. Court to inform official superior concerned regarding allowances to witnesses ...	195
7. Carriage of horses by rail or steamer ...	195
8. Ferry hire ...	196
9. Hire of private elephants ...	196

SECTION XXII.—TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE AND TOURS.—*concluded.*

RULE.	PAGE.
10. Payments for use of Government elephants ...	196
11. Record in travelling allowance bills regarding use of elephants ...	"
12. Adjustment of elephant hire ...	"
13. Supply of provisions to officers on tour ...	"
14. Officers should be at headquarters when Chief Commissioner visits station ...	197
15. Tours of Forest Officers ...	"
16. Dehra Dun students ...	"
17. Subordinates not to exceed 19 miles a day ...	"
18. Subordinates' travelling allowance bills ...	"
19. Jurisdiction of foresters and head guards to be fixed ...	"
20. Foresters' travelling allowances ...	"
21. Head forest guards' travelling allowances ...	198
22. Certificates on subordinates' travelling allowance bills ...	"

SECTION XXIII.—WORKING-PLANS.

1. Preparation of working-plans ...	198
2. Reasons for and procedure in preparation of working plans ...	"
3. Method of silvicultural treatment to be discussed ...	201
4. Diary to contain information relative to plans ...	202
5. Powers to deviate from prescriptions ...	203
6. Stock maps and the conduct of enumeration surveys ...	"

TABLES OF REFERENCES TO ORDERS ON WHICH RULES IN PART III ARE BASED	i—xxvi
INDEX TO PART III ...	xxvii—lxiii
BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FOREST DEPARTMENT IN ASSAM ...	1—76

List of Abbreviations adopted in reference to orders on which Rules in Part III are based.

Chief Commissioner of Assam	C. C.
Home Department of the Government of India	H. D.
Finance and Commerce Department of the Government of India	F. & C. D.
Revenue and Agricultural Department of the Government of India	R. & A. D.
Military Department of the Government of India	MILY. D.
Public Works Department	P. W. D.
Inspector General of Forests	I. G. F.
Conservator of Forests, Assam	CONS.
Comptroller and Auditor General	COMP. & AUD. GENL.
Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam	SECY.
Commissioner of the Assam Valley Districts .	COMR.
Surgeon General	SURG. GENL.
Deputy Postmaster General	D. P. M. G.
Deputy Commissioner	DY. COMR.
Civil Service Regulations	C. S. R.
Manual of Executive Rules and Orders applying to Assam	EX. R.
Resolution	RES.
Notification	NOT.
Circular	CIR.
Miscellaneous	MISC.

PART I.
LOCAL REGULATIONS.

THE ASSAM FOREST MANUAL.

PART I.

I. THE GÁRO HILLS REGULATION, I. OF 1882.

Government of India, Legislative Department, Notification No. 8, dated the 21st July 1882.

WHEREAS by Resolutions passed by the Secretary of State for India in Council on the nineteenth day of September 1872, and fourth day of June 1874, respectively, the provisions of the 33rd of Victoria, Chapter 3, section 1, were declared applicable to the territories now under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of Assam;

And whereas the Chief Commissioner of Assam has proposed to the Governor General in Council a draft of the following Regulation, together with the reasons for proposing the same, and whereas the Governor General in Council has taken such draft and reasons into consideration and has approved of such draft, and the same has received the Governor General's assent;

In pursuance of the direction contained in the said section, the said Regulation is now published in the *Gazette of India*:

REGULATION No. I. OF 1882.

THE GÁRO HILLS REGULATION, 1882.

CONTENTS.

SECTIONS.

1. Short title.
Local extent.
Commencement.
2. Power of Chief Commissioner :
 - (a) to prohibit certain acts ;
 - (b) to regulate the granting of licenses to do such acts.

SECTIONS.

3. Penalties for offences against section 2.
4. Acquisition of interests in land prohibited.
5. Realisation of fines and imprisonment in default of payment.
6. Jurisdiction.

Whereas Regulation I of 1876 (The Gáro Hills Regulation, 1876), the operation of which was extended for one year by the Chief Commissioner's Notification issued with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council on the 18th March 1881, ceased to be in force on the 31st day of March 1882;

And whereas it is desirable to re-enact certain provisions of the said Regulation; It is hereby enacted as follows :

1. This Regulation may be called "The Gáro Hills Regulation, 1882."
- It extends only to the Gáro Hills district, and comes into operation on being published in the *Assam Gazette*.*
2. The Chief Commissioner may from time to time, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the *Assam Gazette*,
- (a) prohibit all or any person, not being natives of the Gáro Hills district, from doing any of the following acts within the limits of the said district without a license, that

is to say,—

cutting wood,

hunting animals,

collecting wax, ivory, India-rubber, or other jungle products, and

(b) prescribe the conditions and restrictions subject to which, and the

to regulate the granting of licenses to do such acts.

amount of fees on payment of which, and the persons by whom, licenses to do any of the said acts

may be granted.

3. Any person who does any act in contravention of a notification issued under section 2 of this Regulation, and any holder of a license under the said section who does any act in contravention of a restriction or condition imposed by such license,

shall be punished for a first offence with a fine not exceeding one hundred rupees, and for each subsequent offence with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three months, or with a fine not exceeding five hundred rupees, or with both;

and the Magistrate by whom he is convicted may further order that all animals or carcasses of animals, and all wood, wax, ivory, India-rubber, or other jungle product found in his possession, and all animals, ropes, nets, guns, ammunition, and other things used by him in the commission of such offence, shall be confiscated.

* Published in the *Assam Gazette* of 5th August 1882.

4. It shall not be lawful for any British subject, or other person not being a native of the Gáro Hills district, to acquire any interest in land or the product of land within the limits of the said district without the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, or of such officer as the Chief Commissioner may appoint in this behalf.

Any interest so acquired may be dealt with as the Chief Commissioner or the said officer may direct.

The Chief Commissioner may from time to time, by notification in the *Assam Gazette*, extend the prohibition contained in this section to any class of persons, natives of the said district, and may from time to time, in like manner, cancel or vary such extension.

5. The provisions of sections 64 to 70, both inclusive, of the Indian Penal Code, shall apply to all fines imposed under the authority of this Regulation.

6. The jurisdiction in respect of offences against this Regulation shall be exercised by such officers, and subject to such conditions as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, by notification in the *Assam Gazette*, direct.

2. REGULATION No. VII OF 1891.

THE ASSAM FOREST REGULATION.

Government of India, Legislative Department. Notification No. 38, dated the 30th December 1891.

WHEREAS by Resolutions passed by the Secretary of State for India in Council on the nineteenth day of September 1872, and the fourth day of June 1874, respectively, the provisions of the 33rd of Victoria, Chapter 3, section 1, were declared applicable to the territories under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of Assam;

And whereas the Chief Commissioner of Assam has proposed to the Governor General in Council a draft of the following Regulation, together with the reasons for proposing the same;

And whereas the Governor General in Council has taken the draft and reasons into consideration, and has approved of the draft, and the same has received the Governor General's assent on the 26th day of December 1891;

In pursuance of the direction contained in the said section, the said Regulation is now published in the *Gazette of India*:

REGULATION No. VII. OF 1891.

THE ASSAM FOREST REGULATION, 1891.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

SECTIONS.

1. Title, extent, and commencement.
2. Repeal, and saving of rules and other proceedings.
3. Definitions.

CHAPTER II.

RESERVED FORESTS.

4. Power to constitute reserved forests.
5. Notification by Local Government of proposal to constitute a reserved forest.
6. Proclamation by Forest-Settlement-Officer.
7. Bar of accrual of forest-rights after proclamation.
8. Inquiry by Forest-Settlement-Officer.
9. Powers of Forest-Settlement-Officer.
10. Treatment of claims relating to practice of jhum-cultivation.
11. Power to acquire land over which right is claimed.

CHAPTER II—continued.

SECTIONS.

12. Order on claims to rights of way, watercourse or pasture, or to forest-produce.
13. Provision for rights of pasture or to forest-produce admitted.
14. Commutation of such rights.
15. Appeal from order passed under foregoing sections.
16. Appeals under the last foregoing section.
17. Notification declaring forest reserved.
18. Extinction of rights not claimed.
19. Publication of translation of such notification in neighbourhood of forest.
20. Power to revise arrangement made under section 13 or 16.
21. Acquisition of rights over reserved forests.
22. Alienation of rights in reserved forests.
23. Power to stop ways and water-courses in reserved forests.

CHAPTER II—*concluded*.

SECTIONS.

24. Penalties for trespass or damage in reserved forests.
25. Acts prohibited in such forests.
26. Acts excepted from sections 24 and 25.
27. Penalty for offences committed by persons having rights in reserved forests.
28. Power to declare forests no longer reserved.

CHAPTER III.

VILLAGE FORESTS.

29. Constitution of village forests.
30. Power to make rules for village forests.
31. Inquiry into, and settlement of, rights.

CHAPTER IV.

GENERAL PROTECTION OF FORESTS
AND FOREST-PRODUCE.

32. Reserved trees in unsettled tracts.
33. Protection of reserved trees.
34. Protection of unsettled forests belonging to the Government.
35. Penalties.
36. Nothing in this chapter to prohibit acts done in certain cases.

CHAPTER V.

DUTY IMPOSED ON FOREST-PRODUCE.

SECTIONS.

37. Power to impose duty on forest-produce.
38. Power to exempt forest-produce from duty.
39. Provisions of chapter not to limit purchase-money or royalty.

CHAPTER VI.

CONTROL OF FOREST-PRODUCE IN
TRANSIT.

40. Power to make rules to regulate transit of forest-produce.
41. Penalties for breach of rules under the last foregoing section.
42. All persons bound to aid in case of accident at revenue station.

CHAPTER VII.

COLLECTION OF DRIFT, STRANDED,
AND OTHER TIMBER.

43. Certain kinds of timber to be deemed the property of the Government until title thereto proved.
44. Notice to claimants of timber of those kinds.
45. Procedure on claim preferred to such timber.
46. Disposal of unclaimed timber.
47. Payments to be made by claimant before timber is delivered to him.

CHAPTER VII—*continued*.

SECTIONS.

48. Power to make rules and prescribe penalties.

CHAPTER VIII.

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE.

49. Seizure of property liable to confiscation.
50. Procedure on receipt by Magistrate of report of seizure.
51. Forest-produce, tools, etc., when liable to confiscation.
52. Disposal, on conclusion of trial for forest offence, of produce in respect of which it was committed.
53. Procedure when offender is not known or cannot be found.
54. Procedure as to perishable property seized under section 49.
55. Appeal from orders under sections 51, 52, and 53.
56. Vesting of confiscated property in the Government.
57. Saving of power to release property seized.
58. Punishment for wrongful seizure.
59. Penalty for counterfeiting or defacing marks on trees and timber and for altering boundary-marks.
60. Power to arrest without warrant.
61. Power to prevent commission of offence.

CHAPTER VIII—*continued*.

SECTIONS.

62. Power to compound offences.
63. Presumption in favour of forest-produce belonging to the Government.
64. Compensation for damage caused by commission of offences.
65. Forfeiture of leases.

CHAPTER IX.

CATTLE-TRESPASS.

66. Cattle-Trespass Act, 1871, to apply.
67. Power to alter fines fixed by that Act.

CHAPTER X.

FOREST-OFFICERS.

68. Investiture of Forest-Officers with certain powers.
69. Forest-Officers deemed public servants.
70. Indemnity for acts done in good faith.
71. Forest-Officers not to trade.

CHAPTER XI.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

72. Additional powers to make rules.
73. Rules when to have force of law.
74. Persons bound to assist Forest-Officer and Police-Officer.
75. Recovery of money due to the Government.

CHAPTER XI—*continued.*

SECTIONS.

76. Lien on forest-produce for such money.
77. Government and its officers not liable for loss or damage in respect of certain forest-produce.

CHAPTER XI—*concluded.*

SECTIONS.

78. Land required under this Regulation to be deemed to be needed for a public purpose.
79. Recovery of penalties due under bond.

A Regulation to amend the Law relating to Forests, Forest-Produce, and the Duty leviable on Timber in Assam.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to forests, forest-produce, and the duty leviable on timber in Assam; it is hereby enacted as follows:

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. (1) This Regulation may be called the Assam Forest Regulation, Title, extent, and commence- 1891.
ment.

(2) It extends to the whole of the territories for the time being administered by the Chief Commissioner of Assam:

Provided that the Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, exempt any place from the operation of the whole or any part thereof, and withdraw such exemption; and

(3) It shall come into force on such day as the Local Government, by notification in the official Gazette, directs.*

(4) A notification under the proviso to sub-section (2) exempting a place from the operation of the whole or any part of the Regulation shall not affect anything done, or any offence committed, or any fine or penalty imposed in such place before such exemption.

* The Regulation came into force on the 1st of April 1892. See Notification No. 612-R., dated the 23rd February 1892, published in the *Assam Gazette* of the 27th February 1892.

VII of 1878.

Repeal, and saving of rules
and other proceedings.

2. (1) On and from the day on which this Regulation comes into force, the Indian Forest Act, 1878, as amended by subsequent enactments, shall be repealed :

(2) But all acts done, proceedings had, appointments made, powers conferred, rules prescribed and notifications published under the said Indian Forest Act, 1878, or under any other law relating to matters for which this Regulation provides shall, so far as they are not inconsistent with this Regulation, be deemed to have been respectively done, had, made, conferred, prescribed and published, under this Regulation.

3. In this Regulation, and in all rules made thereunder, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context,—

Definitions.

(1) "Forest-Officer" means any person appointed by name or as holding an office by or under the orders of the Governor General in Council or the Local Government to be a Conservator, Deputy Conservator, Assistant Conservator, Sub-Assistant Conservator, Forest ranger, Forester or Forest guard, or to discharge any function of a Forest-Officer under this Regulation or any rule thereunder :

(2) "tree" includes palms, bamboos, stumps, brushwood, and canes :

(3) "timber" includes trees when they have fallen or have been felled, and all wood, whether cut up or fashioned or hollowed out for any purpose or not :

(4) "forest-produce" includes—

(a) the following, whether found in, or brought from, a forest or not, that is to say,—

timber, charcoal, caoutchouc, catechu, wood-oil, resin, natural varnish, bark, lac and myrabolams, and

(b) the following when found in, or brought from, a forest, that is to say,—

(i) trees and leaves, and fruits, and all other parts or produce not hereinafter mentioned of trees,

(ii) plants not being trees (including grass, creepers, reeds and moss), and all parts or produce of such plants,

(iii) wild animals and skins, tusks, horns, bones, silk, cocoons, honey and wax, and all other parts or produce of animals, and

(iv) peat, surface-soil, rock and minerals (including limestone, laterite, mineral oils and all products of mines or quarries) :

(5) "forest-offence" means an offence punishable under this Regulation or any rule thereunder :

(6) "cattle" includes also elephants, buffaloes, horses, mares, geldings, ponies, colts, fillies, mules, asses, pigs, rams, ewes, sheep, lambs, goats and kids :

(7) "river" includes also streams, canals, creeks and other channels, natural or artificial:

(8) "land at the disposal of the Government" means land in respect of which no person has acquired—

(a) a permanent, heritable, and transferable right of use and occupancy under any law for the time being in force; or

(b) any right created by grant or lease made or continued by, or on behalf of, the British Government: and

(9) "Magistrate" means a Magistrate of the first or second class, and includes a Magistrate of the third class when he is specially empowered by the Local Government to try forest offences.

CHAPTER II.

RESERVED FORESTS.

4. The Local Government may constitute any land at the disposal of the Government a reserved forest in manner hereinafter provided.

Power to constitute reserved forest.

5. (1) Whenever it is proposed to constitute any land a reserved forest, the Local Government shall publish a notification in the official Gazette,—

Notification by Local Government of proposal to constitute a reserved forest.

(a) specifying as nearly as possible the situation and limits of such land;

(b) declaring that it is proposed to constitute such land a reserved forest; and

(c) appointing an officer (hereinafter called the Forest-Settlement-Officer) to inquire into and determine the existence, nature, and extent of any rights claimed by, or alleged to exist in favour of, any person in or over any land comprised within such limits, and any claims relating to the practice within such limits of jhum cultivation, and to deal with the same as provided in this Chapter.

(2) The Forest-Settlement-Officer shall ordinarily be a person other than a Forest-Officer, but a Forest-Officer may be appointed by the Local Government to assist the Forest-Settlement-Officer in the inquiry prescribed by this Chapter.

6. When a notification has been published under section 5, the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall publish in the language of the country, at the headquarters of each district and subdivision in which any portion of the land comprised in such notification

Proclamation by Forest-Settlement-Officer.

is situate, and in every town and village in the neighbourhood of such land a proclamation—

- (a) specifying as nearly as possible the situation and limits of the proposed forest ;
- (b) setting forth the substance of the provisions of the next following section ;
- (c) explaining the consequences which, as hereinafter provided, will ensue on the reservation of such forest ; and
- (d) fixing a period of not less than three months from the date of the publication of such proclamation, and requiring every person claiming any right or making any claim referred to or mentioned in section 5 either to present to such officer within such period a written notice specifying, or to appear before him within such period and state, the nature of such right or claim.

7. (1) During the interval between the publication of such proclamation and the date fixed by the notification declaring the forest to be reserved as hereinafter provided, no right shall be acquired in or over the land comprised in such notification, except by succession or under a grant or contract in writing made or entered into by, or on behalf of, the Government or some person in whom such right or power to create such right was vested when the proclamation was published ; and on such land no new house shall be built or plantation formed, no fresh clearings for cultivation or for any other purpose shall be made, and no trees shall be cut for the purpose of trade or manufacture except as hereinafter provided.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit any act done with the permission in writing of the Forest-Settlement-Officer, or any clearings lawfully made for jhum cultivation by persons in the habit of practising such cultivation on such land.

8. (1) The Forest-Settlement-Officer shall take down in writing all statements made under section 6, and shall inquire into all claims made under that section, and the existence of any right or practice mentioned in section 5 in respect of which no claim is made.

(2) The Forest-Settlement-Officer shall at the same time consider and record any objection which the Forest-Officer, if any, appointed under section 5 to assist him, may make to any such claim or with respect to the existence of any such right or practice.

9. For the purposes of such inquiry the Forest-Settlement-Officer may exercise—

- (a) power to enter, by himself or any officer authorised by him for the purpose, upon any land, and to survey, demarcate and make a map of the same ; and

(b) the powers of a Civil Court in the trial of suits.

10. (1) In the case of a claim relating to the practice of jhum cultivation the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall record a statement setting forth the particulars of the claim and of any local rule or order under which the practice is allowed or regulated, and submit the statement to the Local Government, together with his opinion as to whether the practice should be permitted or prohibited wholly or in part.

(2) On receipt of the statement and opinion the Local Government may make an order permitting or prohibiting the practice wholly or in part.

(3) If such practice is permitted wholly or in part, the Forest-Settlement-Officer may arrange for its exercise—

(a) by altering the limits of the land under settlement so as to exclude land of sufficient extent, of a suitable kind, and in a locality reasonably convenient for the purposes of the claimants, or

(b) by causing certain portions of the land under settlement to be separately demarcated, and giving permission to the claimants to practice jhum cultivation therein under such conditions as he may prescribe.

All arrangements made under this sub-section shall be subject to the previous sanction of the Local Government.

(4) The practice of jhum cultivation shall in all cases be deemed to be a privilege subject to control, restriction, and abolition by the Local Government, and not to be a right.

11. (1) In the case of a claim to a right in or over any land other than Power to acquire land over which right is claimed. the following rights, namely,—

(a) a right of way,

(b) a right to a watercourse or to use of water,

(c) a right of pasture or to forest-produce,

the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall pass an order specifying the particulars of such claim and admitting or rejecting the same wholly or in part.

(2) If such claim is admitted wholly or in part, the Forest-Settlement-Officer may—

(x) come to an agreement with the claimant for the surrender of the right, or

(y) exclude the land from the limits of the proposed forest, or

(z) proceed to acquire such land in the manner provided by the Land Acquisition Act, 1870.

(3) For the purpose of so acquiring such land—

(i) the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall be deemed to be a Collector proceeding under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870;

- (ii) the claimant shall be deemed to be a person interested and appearing before him in pursuance of a notice given under section 9 of that Act ;
- (iii) the provisions of the preceding sections of that Act shall be deemed to have been complied with ; and
- (iv) the Collector, with the consent of the claimant, may award compensation in land, or in money, or partly in land and partly in money.

12. (1) In the case of a claim to a right of a kind specified in clause (a), clause (b) or clause (c) of section 11, sub-section (1), the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall pass an order specifying the particulars of such claim and admitting or rejecting the same wholly or in part.

Order on claims to rights of way, watercourse or pasture, or to forest-produce.

(2) When a claim to any such right is admitted, if the right is for the beneficial enjoyment of any land or building, the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall record the designation, position, and area of such land or the designation and position of such building.

(3) Where the right is a right to forest-produce, the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall record whether the forest-produce obtained by the exercise of such right may be leased, sold, or bartered, and such other particulars as may be necessary in order to define the nature, incidents, and extent of the right.

13. (1) When the Forest-Settlement-Officer has admitted wholly or in part and recorded under the last foregoing section a claim to a right of pasture or to forest-produce, he shall as far as possible provide for the exercise of such right—

Provision for rights of pasture or to forest-produce admitted.

- (a) by altering the limits of the proposed reserved forest so as to exclude land of sufficient extent, of a suitable kind, and in a locality reasonably convenient for the purposes of the claimant, or
- (b) by recording an order continuing to the claimant a right of pasture or to forest-produce, as the case may be, subject to such rules as may be prescribed by the Local Government.

(2) An order passed under clause (b) of sub-section (1) shall record, as far as practicable,—

- (i) where the right is a right of pasture, the number and description of the cattle which the claimant is from time to time entitled to graze, and the local limits within which, and the seasons during which, such pasture is permitted, and
- (ii) where the right is a right to forest-produce, the quantity of such produce which the claimant is authorised to take or receive, and the local limits within which, the season during which, and the mode in which, the taking or receiving of such produce is permitted, and

- (iii) whether the right is a right of pasture or a right to forest-produce, such other particulars as may be required in order to define the extent of the right which is continued, the mode in which it may be exercised, and the extent to which the benefit thereof may be leased, sold, or bartered.

14. Whenever any right of pasture or to forest-produce admitted under section 12 is not provided for in one of the ways prescribed in section 13, the Forest-Settlement-Officer shall, subject to such rules as the Local Government may prescribe in this behalf, commute such right by paying a sum of money in lieu thereof or, with the consent of the claimant, by the grant of land, or in such other manner as such officer thinks fit.

15. Any person who has made a claim under this Chapter may, within three months from the date of any order passed on such claim by the Forest-Settlement-Officer under section 11, 12, 13 or 14, present an appeal from such order to such officer of the Revenue Department, of rank not lower than that of a Deputy Commissioner, as the Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint by name, or as holding an office, to hear appeals from such orders.

16. (1) Every appeal under the last foregoing section shall be made by petition in writing and may be delivered to the Forest-Settlement-Officer, who shall forward it without delay to the officer competent to hear the same.

(2) Every such appeal shall be heard in the manner prescribed for the time being for the hearing of appeals in matters relating to revenue, and, except as hereinafter provided, the order passed on the appeal shall be final.

Notification declaring forest reserved.

17. (1) When the following events have occurred, namely,—

- (a) the period fixed under section 6 for preferring claims has elapsed, and all claims, if any, made within such period have been disposed of by the Forest-Settlement-Officer, and
- (b) if such claims have been made, the period fixed by section 15 for appealing from the orders passed on such claims has elapsed, and all appeals, if any, presented within such period have been disposed of by the appellate officer, and
- (c) all lands, if any, to be included in the proposed reserved forest which the Forest-Settlement-Officer has, under section 11, elected to acquire under the Land Acquisition Act, 1870, have become vested in the Government under that Act,

X of 1870.

the Local Government may publish a notification in the official Gazette, specifying the limits of the forest which it is intended to reserve and declaring the same to be reserved from a date fixed by such notification.

(2) From the date so fixed such forest shall be deemed to be a reserved forest.

18. Rights in respect of which no claim has been preferred under section 6 and of the existence of which no knowledge has been acquired by inquiry under section 8 shall thereupon be extinguished, unless, before the publication of such notification, the person claiming them has satisfied the Forest-Settlement-Officer that he had sufficient cause for not preferring such claim within the period fixed under section 6.

19. The Deputy Commissioner of the district in which the forest is situate shall, before the date fixed by such notification, cause a translation thereof in the language of the country to be published in the manner prescribed for the proclamation under section 6.

20. The Local Government may, within five years from the publication of any notification under section 17, revise any arrangement made under section 13 or 16, and may rescind or modify any order made under this Chapter, and direct that any one of the proceedings specified in section 13 be taken in lieu of the other of such proceedings, or that a right admitted under section 12 be commuted in the manner mentioned in section 14.

21. No right of any description shall be acquired in or over a reserved forest, except by succession or under grant or contract in writing made by, or with the previous sanction of, the Governor General in Council, or some person in whom such right, or the power to create such right, was vested when the notification under section 17 was published.

22. (1) Notwithstanding anything herein contained, no right continued under section 13 shall be alienated by way of grant, sale, lease, mortgage, or otherwise without the previous sanction of the Local Government:

Provided that, when any such right is continued for the beneficial enjoyment of any land or building, it may be sold or otherwise alienated with such land or building without such sanction.

(2) The benefit of any right continued under section 13 shall not be leased, sold or bartered except to the extent defined by the order recorded under that section.

23. Any Forest-Officer may, from time to time, with the previous sanction of the Local Government or of a Forest-Officer or other officer authorised by the Local Government in this behalf, stop any public or private way or watercourse in a reserved forest :

Power to stop ways and water-courses in reserved forests.

Provided that for the way or watercourse so stopped another way or watercourse which, in the opinion of the Local Government, is equally convenient already exists or has been provided or constructed by the Forest-Officer stopping the way or watercourse.

Penalties for trespass or damage in reserved forests.

24. Any person who in a reserved forest—

- (a) trespasses, or pastures cattle, or permits cattle to trespass, or
- (b) causes any damage by negligence in felling any tree or cutting or dragging any timber, or
- (c) poisons water or, in contravention of any rules made by the Local

Government, hunts, shoots, fishes or sets traps or snares, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or, when the damage resulting from his offence amounts to more than twenty-five rupees, to double the amount of such damage.

Acts prohibited in such forests.

25. Any person who—

- (a) makes any fresh clearing prohibited by section 7, or
 - (b) sets fire to a reserved forest, or, in contravention of any rules made by the Local Government, kindles any fire, or leaves any fire burning, in such manner as to endanger such a forest, or who, in any such forest,—
 - (c) kindles, keeps or carries any fire except at such seasons and in such manner as a Forest-Officer specially empowered in this behalf may from time to time notify, or
 - (d) fells, cuts, girdles, marks, lops, taps or injures by fire or otherwise any tree, or
 - (e) quarries stone, burns lime or charcoal, or collects, subjects to any manufacturing process or removes any forest-produce, or
 - (f) clears or breaks up any land for cultivation or any other purpose,
- shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

Acts excepted from sections 24 and 25.

26. Nothing in section 24 or section 25 shall be deemed to prohibit—

- (a) any practice of jhum cultivation permitted under section 10, or
- (b) the exercise, in accordance with the rules, if any, made by the Local Government under section 13, of any right continued under that section, or
- (c) the exercise of any right created by grant or contract in the manner described in section 21, or

(d) any act done with the permission in writing of a Forest-Officer specially empowered to grant such permission.

27. Whenever fire is caused wilfully or by gross negligence in a reserved forest by any person having rights in such forest or permission to practice jhum cultivation therein, or by any person in his employment, or whenever any person having rights in such forest contravenes the provisions of section 22, the Local Government may, notwithstanding the infliction of any punishment under this Regulation, direct that in such forest, or any specified portion thereof, the exercise of all or any of the rights of pasture or to forest-produce shall be extinguished, or for such period as it thinks fit be suspended, and, with respect to the practice of jhum cultivation, may take such action under section 10, sub-section (4), as may seem to it to be proper.

28. (1) The Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, may, by notification in the official Gazette, direct that, from a date to be fixed by such notification, any forest, or any portion thereof, reserved under this Regulation shall cease to be reserved.

(2) From the date so fixed such forest or portion shall cease to be reserved, but the rights, if any, which have been extinguished therein shall not revive in consequence of such cessation.

CHAPTER III.

VILLAGE FORESTS.

29. (1) The Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute any land at the disposal of the Government a village forest for the benefit of any village-community or group of village-communities, and may in like manner vary or cancel any such notification.

(2) Every such notification shall specify the limits of such village forest.

30. (1) The Local Government may make rules for regulating the management of village forests, prescribing the conditions under which the community or group of communities, for the benefit of which any such forest is constituted may be provided with forest-produce or with pasture, and their duties in respect of the protection and improvement of such forest.

(2) The Local Government may by such rules declare any of the provisions of Chapter II of this Regulation to be applicable to village forests.

31. All claims to any rights other than the rights of the village community or group of village communities, for the benefit of which such village forest is constituted, shall be inquired into, recorded, and provided for in the manner prescribed by Chapter II of this Regulation.

Inquiry into, and settlement of, rights.

CHAPTER IV.

GENERAL PROTECTION OF FORESTS AND FOREST-PRODUCE.

Reserved trees in unsettled tracts.

32. The Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette,—

(a) declare that any trees or any specified class of trees standing on any land at the disposal of the Government shall, from a date to be fixed by such notification, be reserved trees ;

(b) vary or cancel any such notification.

33. No person shall fell, cut, girdle, mark, lop, tap, or injure by fire or otherwise any reserved tree, except in accordance with rules made by the Local Government in this

Protection of reserved trees.

behalf or as provided by the last section of this Chapter.

34. (1) No person shall make use of any forest-produce of any land at the disposal of the Government and not included in a reserved forest or village forest, except in accordance with rules to be made by the Local Government in this behalf, or as provided by the last section of this Chapter.

Protection of unsettled forests belonging to the Government.

(2) Such rules may, with respect to such land,—

(a) regulate or prohibit the cutting of jhums or the issue of grants or leases on behalf of the Government ;

(b) regulate or prohibit the kindling of fires, and prescribe the precautions to be taken to prevent the spreading of fires ;

(c) regulate or prohibit the felling, cutting, girdling, marking, lopping, tapping or injuring by fire or otherwise of any trees, the sawing, conversion, and removal of timber, and the collection and removal of other forest-produce ;

(d) regulate or prohibit the quarrying of stone, the boiling of catechu, or the burning of lime or charcoal ;

(e) regulate or prohibit the cutting of grass and pasturing of cattle, and regulate the payments, if any, to be made for such cutting or pasturing ;

(f) prohibit the poisoning of water, and regulate or prohibit hunting, shooting and fishing, and the setting of traps or snares ;

- (g) regulate the sale or free grant of forest-produce; and
- (h) prescribe or authorise any Forest Officer to prescribe, subject to the control of the Local Government, the fees, royalties, or other payments for forest-produce, and the manner in which such fees, royalties, or other payments are to be levied, whether in transit, or partly in transit, or otherwise.
- (3) The Local Government may exempt any person, or class of persons, or any local area, from the operation of any such rule, and may cancel such exemption.

35. (1) If any person infringes the provisions of section 33, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

Penalties.

(2) The Local Government may, by a rule under section 34, attach to the breach of any rule under that section any punishment not exceeding that mentioned in sub-section (1).

36. Nothing in this Chapter, or in any rule under this Chapter, shall be deemed to prohibit any act done in the exercise of any right or with the permission in writing of a Forest-Officer specially empowered to grant such permission.

Nothing in this Chapter to prohibit acts done in certain cases.

CHAPTER V.

DUTY ON IMPORTED FOREST-PRODUCE.

37. (1) The Local Government may, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, levy a duty, in such manner, at such places, and at such rates as it may prescribe by notification in the official Gazette, on all forest-produce which is brought into the territories to which this Regulation extends from any place beyond those territories.

Power to impose duty on forest-produce.

(2) In every case in which such duty is directed to be levied *ad valorem* the Local Government may, by like notification, determine the manner in which the value is to be ascertained.

38. The Local Government may exempt any forest-produce from the duty to which it is liable under the last foregoing section, and revoke such exemption.

Power to exempt forest-produce from duty.

39. Nothing in this Chapter shall be deemed to limit the amount, if any, chargeable as purchase-money or royalty in respect of any forest-produce.

Provisions of Chapter not to limit purchase-money or royalty.

CHAPTER VI.

CONTROL OF FOREST-PRODUCE IN TRANSIT.

40. (1) The control of all rivers and their banks as regards the floating of timber, as well as the control of all forest-produce in transit by land or water, is vested in the Local Government, and that Government may make rules to regulate the transit of any forest-produce.

Power to make rules to regulate transit of forest-produce.

(2) Such rules may, among other matters,—

(a) prescribe the routes by which alone forest-produce may be imported into, exported from or moved within, the territories to which this Regulation extends;

(b) prohibit the import, export, collection, or moving of forest-produce without a pass from an officer authorised to issue the same, or otherwise than in accordance with the conditions of such pass;

(c) provide for the issue, production and return of such passes;

(d) fix, or authorise any Forest-Officer, subject to the control of the Local Government, to fix the fees payable for such passes;

(e) in the case of timber formed into a raft or fastened to the shore, prohibit the loosening or the setting adrift of such timber by any person not the owner thereof or not acting on behalf of such owner or of the Government;

(f) provide for the stoppage, reporting, examination, and marking of forest-produce in transit in respect of which there is reason to believe that any money is payable to the Government, or to which it is desirable, for the purposes of this Regulation, to affix a mark;

(g) establish revenue-stations to which forest-produce is to be taken by the persons in charge of it for examination, or for the realisation of such money, or in order that such mark may be affixed to it, and prescribe, or authorise a Forest-Officer subject to such control as aforesaid to prescribe, the conditions under which forest-produce is to be brought to, stored at, and removed from such revenue-stations;

(h) provide for the management and control of such revenue-stations, and for regulating the appointment and duties of persons employed thereat;

(i) authorise the transport of timber across any land, and provide for the award and payment of compensation for any damage done by the transport of such timber;

- (j) prohibit the closing up or obstruction of the channel or banks of any river used for the transit of forest-produce, and the throwing of grass, brushwood, branches or leaves into any such river, or any other act which tends to cause the obstruction of such channel;
 - (k) provide for the prevention and removal of any obstruction in the channel or on the banks of any such river, and for recovering the cost of such prevention or removal from the person causing such obstruction;
 - (l) prohibit absolutely, or subject to conditions, within specified local limits, the establishment of sawpits, the converting, cutting, burning, concealing, marking or supermarking of timber, the altering or effacing of any marks on the same, and possession or carrying of marking-hammers or other implements used for marking timber; and
 - (m) regulate the use of property-marks for timber and the registration of such marks, authorise the refusal or cancellation of the registration of any property-marks, prescribe the time for which the registration of property-marks is to hold good, limit the number of such marks which may be registered by any one person and provide for the levy of fees for such registration.
- (3) The Local Government may direct that any rule made under this section shall not apply to any specified class of timber or other forest produce or to any specified local area.

41. (1) The Local Government may, by a rule under the last foregoing section, attach to the breach of any rule under that section any punishment not exceeding imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or both.

Penalties for breach of rules under the last foregoing section.

(2) In cases where the offence is committed after sunset and before sunrise or after preparation for resistance to the execution of any law or any legal process, or where the offender has been previously convicted of a like offence, the convicting Court may inflict double the penalty prescribed for such offence.

42. In case of any accident or emergency involving danger to any property at a revenue-station established under a rule made under section 40, every person employed at such revenue-station, whether by the Government or by any private person, shall render assistance to any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer demanding his aid in averting such danger and securing such property from damage or loss.

All persons bound to aid in case of accident at revenue-station.

CHAPTER VII.

COLLECTION OF DRIFT, STRANDED, AND OTHER TIMBER.

Certain kinds of timber to be deemed the property of the Government until title thereto proved.

43. (1) Timber falling under any of the following descriptions, namely,—

- (a) timber found adrift, beached, stranded, or sunk,
- (b) timber bearing marks which have not been registered under rules made under section 40,
- (c) timber which has been supermarked, or on which marks have been obliterated, altered, or defaced by fire or otherwise, and

(d) in such areas as the Local Government directs, all unmarked timber, shall be deemed to be the property of the Government unless and until any person establishes his right thereto as provided in this Chapter.

(2) Such timber may be collected by any Forest-Officer or other person entitled to collect the same, and may be brought to such stations as a Forest-Officer specially empowered in this behalf may from time to time notify as stations for the reception of drift timber.

(3) The Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, exempt any class of timber from the provisions of this section and withdraw such exemption.

44. (1) Public notice shall from time to time, as occasion may require, be

Notice to claimants of timber of those kinds.

given by a Forest-Officer specially empowered in this behalf of timber collected under the last

foregoing section.

(2) Such notice shall contain a description of the timber, and will require any person claiming the same to present to such officer, within a period not less than one month from the date on which such notice is given, a written statement of such claim.

45. (1) When any such statement is presented as aforesaid, the Forest-

Procedure on claim preferred to such timber.

Officer may, after making such inquiry as he thinks fit, either reject the claim after record-

ing his reasons for so doing or deliver the timber to the claimant.

(2) If such timber is claimed by more than one person, the Forest-Officer may either deliver the same to any of such persons whom he deems entitled thereto, or may refer the claimants to the Civil Court and retain the timber pending the receipt of an order from such Court for its disposal.

(3) Any person whose claim has been rejected under this section may, within three months from the date of such rejection, institute a suit to recover possession of the timber claimed by him, but no person shall recover any compensation against the Government or against any Forest-Officer on

account of such rejection, or the detention or removal of any timber or the delivery thereof to any other person under this section.

(4) No such timber shall be subject to process of any Civil Court until it has been delivered, or a suit brought under this section has been decided.

46. Where no statement is presented in the manner and within the period prescribed by notice issued under section 44, or

Disposal of unclaimed timber.

where, such statement having been so presented

and the claim rejected, the claimant omits to institute a suit to recover possession of such timber within the further period mentioned in section 45, the ownership of such timber shall vest in the Government free from all incumbrances or, when such timber has been delivered to another person under section 45, in such other person free from all incumbrances not created by him.

47. No person shall be entitled to recover possession of any timber

Payments to be made by claimant before timber is delivered to him.

collected or delivered as aforesaid until such sum as may be due for salving, collecting, moving,

storing, and disposing of the timber has been paid by him to the Forest-Officer or other person entitled to receive the sum.

Power to make rules and prescribe penalties.

48. (1) The Local Government may make rules to regulate the following matters, namely :

(a) the salving, collection, and disposal of all timber mentioned in section 43;

(b) the use and registration of boats used in salving and collecting timber;

(c) the amount to be paid for salving, collecting, moving, storing, and disposing of such timber; and

(d) the use and registration of hammers and other implements to be used for marking such timber.

(2) The Local Government may, by a rule under this section, attach to the breach of any rule under this section any punishment not exceeding imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or both.

CHAPTER VIII.

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE.

49. (1) When there is reason to believe that a forest-offence has been

Seizure of property liable to confiscation.

committed in respect of any forest-produce, such produce, together with all tools, boats, carts and cattle used in the commission of such alleged offence, may be seized by any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer.

(2) Every officer seizing any property under this section shall place on such property, or the receptacle, if any, in which it is contained, a mark indicating that the same has been so seized, and shall, as soon as may be, make a report of such seizure to the Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the person accused of the offence on account of which the seizure has been made :

Provided that when the forest-produce with respect to which such offence is believed to have been committed is the property of the Government and the offender is unknown, it shall be sufficient if the officer makes, as soon as may be, a report of the circumstances to his official superior.

50. Upon the receipt of any such report, the Magistrate shall take such measures as may be necessary for the trial of the accused and the disposal of the property according to law.

51. (1) When any person is convicted of a forest-offence, all forest-produce which is not the property of the Government, and in respect of which such offence has been committed, and all tools, boats, carts and cattle used in the commission of such offence, shall be liable, by order of the convicting Court, to confiscation.

(2) Such confiscation may be in addition to any other punishment prescribed for such offence.

52. When the trial of any forest-offence is concluded, any forest-produce in respect of which such offence has been committed shall, if it is the property of the Government or has been confiscated, be taken possession of by a Forest-Officer specially empowered in this behalf, and, in any other case, shall be disposed of in such manner as the Court may order.

53. (1) When the offender is not known or cannot be found, the Magistrate inquiring into the offence, if he finds that an offence has been committed, may on application in this behalf, order the property in respect of which the offence has been committed to be confiscated and taken possession of by a Forest-Officer specially empowered in this behalf, or to be made over to such Forest-Officer or other person as the Magistrate may consider entitled to the same :

Provided that no such order shall be made till the expiration of one month from the date of the seizure of such property, or without hearing the person, if, any claiming right thereto, and the evidence, if any, which he may produce in support of his claim.

(2) The Magistrate shall either cause a notice of any application under sub-section (1) to be served upon any person whom he has reason to believe to be interested in the property seized, or publish such notice in any way which he may think fit.

54. The Magistrate may, notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, direct the sale of any property seized under section 49 and subject to speedy and natural decay, and may deal with the proceeds as he might have dealt with such property if it had not been sold.

55. Any person claiming to be interested in property seized under section 49 may, within one month from the date of any order passed by a Magistrate under section 51, section 52 or section 53, present an appeal therefrom to the Court to which orders made by such Magistrate are ordinarily appealable, and the order passed on such appeal shall be final.

56. When an order for the confiscation of any property has been passed under section 51 or section 53, and the period limited by section 55 for presenting an appeal from such order has elapsed, and no such appeal has been presented, or when, on such an appeal being presented, the Appellate Court confirms such order in respect of the whole or a portion of such property, such property or portion, as the case may be, shall vest in the Government free from all incumbrances.

57. Nothing hereinbefore contained shall be deemed to prevent any Forest-Officer or other officer empowered in this behalf by the Local Government from directing at any time the immediate release of any property seized under section 49 which is not the property of the Government, and the withdrawal of any charge made in respect of such property.

58. (1) Any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer who vexatiously and unnecessarily seizes any property on pretence of seizing property liable to confiscation under this Regulation, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

(2) Any fine so imposed, or any portion thereof, shall, if the convicting Court so direct, be given as compensation to the person aggrieved by such seizure.

59. Whoever, with intent to cause damage or injury to the public or to any person, or to cause wrongful gain as defined in the Indian Penal Code,—

Penalty for counterfeiting or defacing marks on trees and timber and for altering boundary-marks.

XLV of 1860.

(a) knowingly counterfeits upon any tree or timber a mark used by Forest-Officers to indicate that such tree or timber is the property of the Government or of some person, or that it may lawfully be felled or removed by some person, or

- (b) unlawfully affixes to any tree or timber a mark used by Forest-Officers, or
 - (c) alters, defaces or obliterates any such mark placed on any tree or timber by or under the authority of a Forest-Officer, or
 - (d) alters, moves, destroys, or defaces any boundary-mark of any forest or waste land to which any provisions of this Regulation apply,
- shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

60. (1) Any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer may, without orders from a Magistrate and without a warrant, arrest any person reasonably suspected of having been concerned in any forest-offence punishable with imprisonment for one month or upwards, if such person refuses to give his name and residence, or gives a name or residence which there is reason to believe to be false, or if there is reason to believe that he will abscond.

(2) Every officer making an arrest under this section shall, without unnecessary delay, take or send the person arrested before a Magistrate having jurisdiction in the case or to the officer in charge of the nearest police-station.

61. It shall be the duty of every Forest-Officer and Police-Officer to prevent, and any such officer may interfere for the purpose of preventing, the commission of any forest-offence.

62. (1) The Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, empower a Forest-Officer by name, or as holding an office—

- (a) to accept from any person against whom a reasonable suspicion exists that he has committed any forest-offence, other than an offence specified in section 58 or section 59, a sum of money by way of compensation for the offence which such person is suspected to have committed, and
- (b) when any property has been seized as liable to confiscation, to release the same on payment of the value thereof as estimated by such officer.

(2) On the payment of such sum of money, or such value, or both, as the case may be, to such officer, the suspected person, if in custody, shall be discharged, the property, if any, seized shall be released, and no further proceedings shall be taken against such person or property.

(3) No Forest-Officer shall be empowered under this section unless he is a Forest-Officer of a rank not inferior to that of a Forest-ranger, and is in receipt of a monthly salary amounting to at least one hundred rupees: and the

sum of money accepted as compensation under sub-section (1), clause (a), shall in no case exceed the sum of fifty rupees.

63. When in any proceedings taken under this Regulation, or in consequence of anything done under this Regulation, a question arises as to whether any forest-produce is the property of the Government, such produce shall be presumed to be the property of the Government until the contrary is proved.

Presumption in favour of forest-produce belonging to the Government.

64. (1) When any person is convicted of felling, cutting, girdling, marking, lopping or tapping trees, or of injuring them by fire or otherwise, in contravention of this Regulation or of any rule thereunder, the convicting Court may, in addition to any other punishment which it may award, order that person to pay to the Government such compensation, not exceeding ten rupees for each tree with respect to which the offence was committed, as it may deem just.

Compensation for damage caused by commission of offences.

(2) If the person convicted of the offence committed it as the agent or servant of another person, the convicting Court may, unless after hearing that other person it is satisfied that the commission of the offence was not a consequence of his instigation, or of any neglect or default on his part, order him, instead of the person who committed the offence, to pay the compensation referred to in sub-section (1).

(3) An appeal from any order under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) shall lie to the Court to which orders made by the convicting Court are ordinarily appealable, and the order passed on such appeal shall be final.

65. When the holder of any lease, license or contract whatsoever granted or continued by or on behalf of the Government for

Forfeiture of leases.

any of the purposes of this Regulation commits an offence against this Regulation or any rule thereunder, or when any such offence is committed by any agent or servant of the holder of any such lease, license or contract, and the Local Government is satisfied that the commission of the offence was a consequence of the instigation of such holder or of any neglect or default on his part, the Local Government may, by order in writing, declare the lease, license or contract to be forfeited in whole or in part with effect on and from a date to be specified in the order not being prior to the date of the commission of the offence.

CHAPTER IX.

CATTLE-TRESPASS.

66. Cattle-trespassing in a reserved forest or in a village forest shall be deemed to be cattle doing damage to a public plantation within the meaning of section 11 of the

Cattle-Trespass Act, 1871, to apply.

Cattle-trespass Act, 1871, and may be seized and impounded as such by any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer. I of 1871.

67. The Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, direct that, in lieu of the fines fixed by section 12 of the Act, last aforesaid, there shall be levied for each head of cattle impounded under section 66 of this Regulation such fines as it thinks fit, but not exceeding the following, namely :

Power to alter fines fixed by that Act.

					<i>Rs. a.</i>
For each elephant	...	...	...	...	10 0
For each buffalo	...	...	...	...	2 0
For each horse, mare, gelding, pony, colt, filly, mule,					
bull, bullock, cow, or heifer	...	...	...	...	1 0
For each calf, ass, pig, ram, ewe, sheep, lamb, goat,					
or kid	...	...	...	...	0 8

CHAPTER X.

FOREST-OFFICERS.

68. (1) The Local Government may invest any Forest-Officer by name, or as holding an office, with all or any of the following powers, namely :

Investiture of Forest-Officers with certain powers.

- (a) power to enter upon any land and to survey, demarcate, and make a map of the same;
- (b) the powers of a Civil Court to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents;
- (c) power to issue search-warrants under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882;
- (d) power to hold inquiries into forest-offences, and in the course of such inquiries to receive and record evidence;
- (e) power to notify the seasons and manner in which fire may be kindled, kept or carried in a reserved forest;
- (f) power to grant any permission referred to in sections 26 and 36;
- (g) power to notify stations for the reception of drift timber;
- (h) power to give public notice of timber collected under section 43;
- (i) power to take possession of property under this Regulation;
- (j) power to direct the release of property or withdrawal of charges; and may withdraw any power so conferred.

of 1882.

(2) Any evidence recorded under clause (d) of sub-section (1) shall be admissible in any subsequent trial before a Magistrate of the alleged offender : Provided that it has been taken in the presence of the accused person and recorded in the manner provided by section 355, section 356, or section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

XLV of 1860.

69. All Forest-Officers shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code.

Forest-Officers deemed public servants.

70. No suit or criminal prosecution shall lie against any public servant for anything done or omitted by him in good faith under this Regulation.

Indemnity for acts done in good faith.

71. No Forest-Officer shall, as principal or agent, trade in forest-produce, or be or become interested in any lease or mortgage of any forest, or in any contract for

Forest-Officers not to trade.

working any forest, whether in British or foreign territory.

CHAPTER XI.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

Additional powers to make rules.

72. The Local Government may make rules consistent with this Regulation—

- (a) to declare by what Forest-Officer or class of Forest-Officers the powers or duties conferred or imposed by or under this Regulation on a Forest-Officer are to be exercised or performed;
- (b) to regulate the procedure of Forest-Settlement-Officers;
- (c) to regulate the rewards to be paid to officers and informers from the proceeds of fines and confiscations under this Regulation or from the public treasury; and
- (d) generally, to carry out the provisions of this Regulation.

Rules when to have force of law.

73. All rules made by the Local Government under this Regulation shall be published in the official Gazette, and shall thereupon have the force of law.

Persons bound to assist Forest-Officer and Police-Officer.

74. Every person who exercises any right in a reserved forest or village forest, or who is permitted to remove any forest-produce from, or to pasture cattle, or practice jhum cultivation in, such forest, and

every person who is employed by such person in such forest, and every person in any village contiguous to such forest who is employed by the Government, or who receives emoluments from the Government for services to be performed to the community,

shall be bound to furnish, without unnecessary delay, to the nearest Forest-Officer or Police-Officer any information which he may possess respecting the occurrence of a fire in or near such forest, or the commission of, or intention

to commit, any forest-offence, and shall assist any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer demanding his aid—

- (a) in extinguishing any fire occurring in such forest ;
- (b) in preventing any fire which may occur in the vicinity of such forest from spreading to such forest ;
- (c) in preventing the commission in such forest of any forest-offence ; and
- (d) when there is reason to believe that any such offence has been committed in such forest, in discovering and arresting the offender.

75. All money, other than fines, payable to the Government under this Regulation, or under any rule made thereunder, or on account of the price of any forest-produce, or of expenses incurred in the execution of this Regulation in respect of any forest-produce, may, if not paid when due, be recovered under the law for the time being in force as if it were an arrear of land revenue.

Recovery of money due to the Government.

76. (1) When any such money is payable for, or in respect of, any forest-produce, the amount thereof shall be deemed to be a first charge on such produce, and such produce may be taken possession of by a Forest-Officer specially empowered in this behalf and may be retained by him until such amount has been paid.

Lien on forest-produce for such money.

(2) If such amount is not paid when due, such Forest-Officer may sell such produce by public auction, and the proceeds of the sale shall be applied first in discharging such amount.

(3) The surplus, if any, if not claimed within two months from the date of the sale by the person entitled thereto, shall be forfeited to the Government.

77. The Government shall not be responsible for any loss or damage which may occur in respect of any forest-produce while at a revenue-station established under a rule made under section 40, or while detained elsewhere for the purposes of this Regulation, or in respect of any timber collected under section 43 ; and no Forest-Officer shall be responsible for any such loss or damage unless he shall have caused the same negligently, maliciously, or fraudulently.

Government and its officers not liable for loss or damage in respect of certain forest-produce.

78. Whenever it appears to the Local Government that any land is required for any of the purposes of this Regulation, such land shall be deemed to be needed for a public purpose within the meaning of section 4 of the land

Land required under this Regulation to be deemed to be needed for a public purpose.

Acquisition Act, 1870.

X of 1870.

79. When any person, in compliance with any rule under this Regulation, binds himself by any instrument to perform any duty or act, or covenants by any instrument that he, or that he and his servants and agents, will abstain from any act, the whole sum mentioned in such instrument as the amount to be paid in case of a breach of the conditions thereof may notwithstanding anything in section 74 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872, be recovered from him in case of such breach as if it were an arrear of land revenue.

Recovery of penalties due
under bond.

PART II.

RULES HAVING THE FORCE OF LAW.

PART II.

A.—RULES UNDER THE GÁRO HILLS REGULATION (I OF 1882).

1. Licenses in Forest Matters in the Gáro Hills.

* Under the powers vested in him by section 2 of the Gáro Hills Regulation, 1882, the Chief Commissioner is pleased to prohibit all persons, not being natives of the Gáro Hills district, from doing any of the following acts within the limits of the said district without a license, that is to say —

Cutting wood.

1

Hunting animals.

Collecting wax, ivory, India-rubber, or other jungle products.

2. Licenses for the cutting and removal of *gurkati*, or minor forest-produce, will be granted by the District Forest-Officer in the prescribed form, on payment of a fee of 2 rupees for each license.†

3. These licenses will be procurable on application to mauzadars, lakmas, respectable shopkeepers, and others to whom books of them may be committed by the District Forest-Officer for sale.

4. Every license to cut and remove *gurkati* must be in the possession of the person cutting and removing the produce when he avails himself of it, and must be produced by him on demand for inspection by any Forest-Officer, Police-Officer, mauzadar, or other revenue official.

5. Licenses for the cutting and removal of timber will be granted in the form specified in paragraph 2 above.

6. All trees covered by the license must be paid for at the rates shown in the accompanying schedule :

Schedule of rates of Royalty.

Each tree of sál or sám	...	...	...	Rs. 10
" " of other reserved kinds	...	...	...	6
" " of unreserved kinds	...	...	...	2

7. When not more than twenty trees are included in the license, the full price payable must be paid at the time of an application for the license. When more than twenty trees are included in the license, half the price payable must be paid on application, and the remainder before the trees are removed from the sale depôts to which they are to be taken.

8. Licenses to cut timber will be granted by the District Forest-Officer the Forest-ranger in charge of the range, or the forester in charge of the

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 80-J., dated the 9th October 1882.

† Re. 1 per *Gurkati* license chargeable to Gáros. Secretary's No. 2002, dated 20th June 1889.

forest : sums exceeding Rs. 50 payable in respect of a license must, however, be paid direct into the treasury at Tura before the license is granted. Sums not exceeding Rs. 50 may be paid to the officer granting the license.

9. Licenses for hunting animals may be granted by the Deputy Commissioner on payment of a fee of Rs. 2 for each license, and shall be in the following form :

LICENSE FOR HUNTING ANIMALS.

Fee Rs. 2.

To

Resident of

I.—You are hereby authorised to hunt animals within the Gáro Hills for one year from the date of the license.

II.—You shall not kill pea-fowl from the 1st April to the 1st September.

III.—You shall not kill any fawn, or doe with fawn by her side.

IV.—You shall not kill any elephant.

V.—In case of breach of the conditions of this license, the animals killed by you may be confiscated, and you will be liable to the penalties prescribed in section 3, Regulation I of 1882.

VI.—The Deputy Commissioner shall have power to cancel this license should you cause any disturbance among the Gáros, or for other political reasons.

The

18 .

Deputy Commissioner.

10. The conditions set forth in the license must be observed by the licensee.

2. Powers under the Gáro Hills Regulation.

* Under the powers vested in him by section 6 of Regulation I of 1882 (The Gáro Hills Regulation), the Chief Commissioner hereby declares that the jurisdiction in respect of offences against the said Regulation shall be exercised by the Deputy Commissioner of the Gáro Hills district, and subject to his control and to the limitations imposed by the rules framed for the criminal administration of that district, under the Scheduled Districts Act, by the District Superintendent of Police for the time being, if the said District Superintendent be vested with the powers of a Magistrate.

B.—RULES UNDER THE ASSAM FOREST REGULATION (VII OF 1891).

1. Drift Timber.

† In supersession of Notification No. 611-R., dated the 22nd February 1895, the Chief Commissioner publishes the following Rules, under the provisions of section 48 of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, regulating the salving, collection, and disposal of drift timber in the Assam Valley districts and in the districts of Cachar and Sylhet :

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 67-J., dated the 1st August 1882.

† Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 2700 R., dated the 6th July 1896.

I. Except in the Dayang and Dhansiri rivers in the Sibságar district, the Bharali river in the Darrang district, and such other rivers as may be closed from time to time by the Chief Commissioner and notified in the *Assam Gazette*, the use of unmarked drift timber in the Assam Valley districts is free to all settlement-holders, as defined in the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, and their sub-tenants, who may collect it for their domestic and agricultural purposes only, and not for purposes of sale or trade.

II. In all districts, prisoners are allowed to collect drift firewood free.

III. No timber (including bamboos) found adrift, beached, stranded, or sunk in any of the rivers in the districts of Cachar and Sylhet shall be moved to, or landed at, any places other than such as may from time to time be notified by the District Forest-Officer as depôts for the reception of drift timber.

IV. Salvage shall be paid for all timber collected at depôts notified under Rule III at the following rates :

	Rs.	a.
1. For every raft containing more than five logs	5	0
2. For every log in any raft containing not more than five logs ...	1	0
3. For every single log from 5 to 10 feet in length and from 2 to 4 feet in girth	0	8
4. For every single log over 10 feet in length and over 4 feet in girth ...	1	0
5. For every raft of bamboos 10 per cent. on the valuation made by the		

District Forest-Officer, or any other officer authorised on his behalf,

and no timber shall be delivered to any person claiming the same until salvage has been paid and any other expenses on account of collecting, moving, and storing that may have been incurred on the timber. If there is no claimant, the timber may be sold by public auction or at such rates as may be sanctioned by the Conservator of Forests, Assam.

V. All timber found adrift, beached, stranded, or sunk in any river of the district of Cachar, measuring less than 5 feet in length and 2 feet in girth, except jarul, nágesvar, and gundroi timber, is hereby exempted from the provisions of section 43 of the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891.

VI. If any person infringes any of the above rules, he shall be punished with rigorous or simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

2. Imported Forest Produce—Duty on.

* Under the provisions of sections 37(1) and 40(2) (g) of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and in supersession of Notifications No. 21, dated the 31st July 1885, No. 5, dated the 25th January 1887, Nos. 49 and 50, dated the 19th August 1887, and No. 57, dated the 14th October

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 606-R., dated the 22nd February 1895.

1887, the Chief Commissioner prescribes, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, the following rates of duty, which shall come into force on and from the date of this Notification, on timber brought into Assam from any place beyond the limits of the Province, except Bhutan, or from beyond the Inner Line, and also the places at which such timber may be stopped for examination and payment of the duty or other charges leviable thereon :

1. Duty on timber brought into the Assam Valley districts by the Brahmaputra or any of its tributaries shall be levied at the following rates :

Logs of Sdl.

				<i>Rs. a.</i>
If under 10 feet in length	...	...	...	2 8 per log.
If from 10 " to 15 feet in length	...	...	...	5 0 "
If over 15 " in length	...	...	...	10 0 "

Logs of reserved Timber other than Sdl.

If under 10 feet in length	...	...	...	1 8 per log.
If from 10 " to 15 feet in length	...	...	...	3 0 "
If over 15 " in length	...	...	...	6 0 "

Logs of unreserved Timber.

If under 10 feet in length	...	...	...	0 10 per log.
If from 10 " to 15 feet in length	...	...	...	1 0 "
If over 15 " in length	...	...	...	2 0 "
Poles or saplings	...	...	...	0 1 each.

Boats or Dugouts (except when imported into the Lakhimpur district).

If of sál	...	...	...	10 0 each.
Of all other kinds	...	...	...	6 0 "

Bamboos.

Jangli or kata bamboo	...	...	...	1 0 per 100.
Jati bamboo	...	...	...	2 0 "
Bhaluka bamboe	...	...	...	3 0 "

2. Duty on timber brought into the Surma Valley districts by the Barák and Kátákhál rivers, or any of their tributaries, shall be levied at the following rates :

Rs. a.

1. For every cubic foot of timber, in the rough, of the following kinds :

Jarul (<i>Lagerstræmia reginæ</i>), nágesvar (<i>Mesua ferrea</i>), sám or chám (<i>Artocarpus chaplasha</i>), gundroi (<i>Cinnamomum glanduliferum</i>)	...	...	...	0 4
Kurtá (<i>Isonandra polyantha</i>), rárá (<i>Dysoxylum binectariferum</i>), pomá (<i>Cedrela toona</i>), joki (<i>Bischofia javanica</i>), tailo (<i>Castanopsis indica</i>), shundi, karal (<i>Dipterocarpus</i> sp.), jám (<i>Schima mollis</i>), ping (<i>Cynometra polyandra</i>)	...	...	...	0 3
All other kinds, per cubic foot	...	...	...	0 1

2. For every cubic foot of converted timber, the above rates with an addition of 25 per cent.

3. For every thousand bamboos	...	...	...	Rs.	a.
				2	8

3. The following places are prescribed as revenue-stations, where timber and forest-produce shall be stopped for examination and for the payment of the amounts, if any, due to Government thereon, whether as duty or on any other account :

In the Assam Valley Districts.

Sadiya.	|	Dhubri.
Dibrugarh.	|	Fakirganj.

In the Surma Valley Districts.

Silchar.	|	Sialtek.
Sonaimukh.	|	Matijuri.

3. India-Rubber-Collection and Removal of.

* In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 34 and 35 of the Assam Forest Regulation (VII of 1891), and in supersession of all previous rules and orders on the subject, the Chief Commissioner is pleased to make the following rules, with effect from the first day of November 1892, to regulate the collection and removal of India-rubber, being the produce of trees on land at the disposal of Government, and not included in a reserved or village forest, within the territories under his administration :

1. India-rubber-yielding trees growing on any such land may be tapped only during the months of December, January, February, and March. The roots of the trees and the lowest part of the stem within 3 feet from the surface of the ground may not be tapped, and no India-rubber trees may be felled, burnt, or lopped. The incisions must be not less than 2 feet apart, and must not exceed 1 foot in length and 4 inches in breadth.

2. No person shall extract, collect, or remove India-rubber, being the produce of trees on any such land, save under, and subject to, the conditions of an India-rubber-collecting license granted by the Local Government, or by the Deputy Commissioner or the Forest-Officer in charge of a division, or other Forest-Officer empowered in this behalf. Such license shall be in the form contained in Appendix A to these rules, and the amount of the fee for the same, which may from time to time be prescribed by the Local Government, shall be printed on each license.

3. No person shall purchase any India-rubber, being the produce of trees on any such land, save under, and subject to, the conditions of an

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 5737-B., dated the 1st November 1892.

India-rubber-purchase license granted by the Local Government, or by the Deputy Commissioner or the Forest-Officer in charge of a division or other Forest-Officer empowered in this behalf. Such license shall be in the form contained in Appendix B to these rules, and the amount of the fee for the same, which may from time to time be prescribed by the Local Government, shall be printed on each license.

4. A duty at the rate of Rs. 12 per maund of 40 seers shall be paid on all India-rubber extracted from trees growing on any such land, and shall be levied at the first revenue-station reached by such India-rubber.

5. Any person committing a breach of any of the foregoing rules shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

APPENDIX A.

LICENSE TO COLLECT AND REMOVE INDIA-RUBBER.

*Fee Rs. 10.**

[OVERSE.]

License to collect and remove _____, under Rule 2 of the Rules issued under Notification No. 5737-R., dated the 1st November 1892, has been granted from the _____ to the _____, both days inclusive, subject to the conditions specified on the reverse—

- (a) To
- (b) Of
- (c) Circle
- (d) District
- (e) Age
- (f) Height
- (g) Distinguishing marks

The day of 18 .

Signature of Officer granting the License.

[REVERSE.]

The conditions subject to which this license is granted are—

- (i) that the license is not transferable;
- (ii) that the license shall always be kept with the holder when collecting or removing India-rubber.

Breach of any of the conditions of this license will render the license liable to forfeiture, and the holder thereof to the punishment provided in the Forest Rules.

* Chief Commissioner's letter No. ^{108-Forests} 3338 R., dated the 6th May 1893.

APPENDIX B.

LICENSE TO PURCHASE INDIA-RUBBER.

*Fee Rs. 5.**

[REVERSE.]

No. of book

No. of license

License to purchase India-rubber, under Rule 3 of the Rules issued under Notification No. 5737-R. of 1st November 1892, has been granted for one year from to the , both days inclusive, subject to the conditions specified on the reverse.

- (a) To
- (b) Of
- (c) Circle
- (d) District.

Date

Signature of Licensing Officer.

[REVERSE.]

The conditions subject to which this license is granted are—

- (i) that the license is not transferable ;
- (ii) that the license shall always be kept with the holder when purchasing India-rubber.

Breach of any of the conditions of this license will render the license liable to forfeiture, and the holder thereof to the punishment provided in the Forest Rules.

4. Indian-Rubber—Import and Export.

† In exercise of the powers conferred by section 37 of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, the Chief Commissioner of Assam is pleased (a) to impose, with effect from the first day of October 1892, a duty of Rs. 12 per maund of 40 seers on all India-rubber imported into the territories administered by him from any place beyond these territories, and (b) to declare that the said duty shall be levied at the first revenue-station reached by such produce.

* Chief Commissioner's letter No. ^{108-Forests}₃₃₈₈ R., dated the 6th May 1893.

† Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 4931-R., dated the 24th September 1892.

* In exercise of the powers conferred by section 40 of the Assam Forest Regulation (VII of 1891), and in supersession of all previous rules and orders on the subject, the Chief Commissioner is further pleased to make the following rules :

1. India-rubber shall only be imported into and, if imported, or being the produce of trees on any land at the disposal of Government, and not included in a reserved or village forest, shall only be moved within the territories administered by the Chief Commissioner of Assam by the following authorised routes :

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. The Margherita-Dibrugarh Railway. | 9. The Bhoroli river. |
| 2. „ Jaipur-Dibrugarh road. | 10. „ Balipara-Tezpur road. |
| 3. „ Brahmaputra river. | 11. „ Odalguri-Bhutan road. |
| 4. „ Subansiri river. | 12. „ Kopili and Kalang rivers. |
| 5. „ Dikhu river. | 13. „ Dewangiri-Gauhati road. |
| 6. „ Sibsagar-Nazira road. | 14. „ Manas river. |
| 7. „ Dimapur-Golaghat road. | 15. „ Silchar-Manipur road. |
| 8. „ Dhansiri river. | 16. „ Surma river. |

N.B.—The above list of routes is subject to additions or alterations.

Provided that a Forest-Officer in charge of a division, or other officer authorised by the Local Government in this behalf, may by order in writing direct India-rubber to be imported into, or moved within, the said territories by any other route specified in his order.

2. All such India-rubber as aforesaid shall be taken to one of the following revenue-stations for the realisation of the duty leviable thereon :

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Dibrugarh. | 6. Tezpur. | 11. Jhalnachara. |
| 2. Subansiri. | 7. Odalguri. | 12. Tambulpur. |
| 3. Sibsagar. | 8. Gauhati. | 13. Barpeta. |
| 4. Dhansirimukh. | 9. Goalpara. | 14. Lakhimpur. |
| 5. Nowgong. | 10. Silchar. | 15. Shillong. |
| | 16. Chuliakatta. | |

N.B.—These revenue-stations are subject to additions or alterations.

Provided that a Forest-Officer in charge of a division may by order in writing direct any India-rubber to be taken to any other revenue station specified in his order.

3. India-rubber shall not be removed from the revenue-station to which it is taken under the last foregoing rule until the full duty leviable thereon has been realized and a pass, in the form contained in the Appendix to these

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 5738-R., dated the 1st November 1892, as amended by Notifications No. 253-R., dated the 20th January 1893, No. 968-R., dated the 10th February 1893, No. 2069-R., dated the 3rd April 1893, No. 2915-R., dated the 13th April 1893, and No. 2235-R., dated the 26th June 1895.

rules, has been granted by the officer in charge of the station in respect of such India-rubber.

4. Any person committing a breach of any of the foregoing rules shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

APPENDIX.

INDIA-RUBBER PASS.		INDIA-RUBBER PASS.		INDIA-RUBBER PASS.	
Granted under Rule 3 of Notification No. 5738-R. of 1st November 1892.		Granted under Rule 3 of Notification No. 5738-R. of 1st November 1892.		Granted under Rule 3 of Notification No. 5738-R. of 1st November 1892.	
No. of book and pass	No. of book and pass	No. of book and pass	No. of book and pass	No. of book and pass	No. of book and pass
Name of owner	Name of owner	Name of owner	Name of owner	Name of owner	Name of owner
Residence	Residence	Residence	Residence	Residence	Residence
No. and date of owner's license	No. and date of owner's license	No. and date of owner's license	No. and date of owner's license	No. and date of owner's license	No. and date of owner's license
Quantity of India-rubber removed under this pass :	Quantity of India-rubber removed under this pass :	Quantity of India-rubber removed under this pass :	Quantity of India-rubber removed under this pass :	Quantity of India-rubber removed under this pass :	Quantity of India-rubber removed under this pass :
Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.
Number and description of packages	Number and description of packages	Number and description of packages	Number and description of packages	Number and description of packages	Number and description of packages
Amount of duty paid, Rs.	Amount of duty paid, Rs.	Amount of duty paid, Rs.	Amount of duty paid, Rs.	Duty paid, Rs.	Duty paid, Rs.
Port at which rubber will be shipped.	Port at which rubber will be shipped.	Port at which rubber will be shipped.	Port at which rubber will be shipped.	Port of shipment	Port of shipment
				Name of steamer or boatman	Name of steamer or boatman
Signature of Forest-Officer.	Signature of Forest-Officer.	Signature of Forest-Officer.	Signature of Forest-Officer.	Signature of Forest-Officer.	Signature of Forest-Officer.
Date	Date	Date	Date	Date	Date

NOTE.—This portion of the pass should be filled up at port of shipment.

NOTE.—This portion of the pass must be given up at port of shipping rubber.

5. Powers of Forest Officers and the grant of Rewards.

* Under the provisions of sections 68 and 72 of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and in supersession of Notification No. 612-R., dated the 22nd February 1885, published at page 306 of the *Assam Gazette* of the 23rd February 1895, the Chief Commissioner makes the following rules regulating the powers to be exercised and the procedure to be observed by Forest-Officers, and the grant of rewards :

Powers.

I. The Chief Forest-Officer of the Province, all Deputy Conservators, Assistant Conservators, Extra Deputy Conservators, Extra Assistant Conservators in charge of Forest Divisions, and all Subdivisional Officers shall have power under section 23 of the Assam Forest Regulation, with the previous sanction of the Deputy Commissioner of the district, to stop ways and watercourses in Government reserved forests, subject to the proviso attached to that section.

II. The Chief Forest-Officer of the Province, all Deputy Conservators, Assistant Conservators, Extra Deputy Conservators, and Extra Assistant Conservators when in charge of Forest Divisions or Forest Districts, and all Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers shall exercise powers under sections 34, 36, 43, 44, 45, 47, 57, and 76, and also the powers referred to in clause (1) of section 68 of the Assam Forest Regulation. If the officer draws a monthly salary of Rs. 100 or more, he shall also exercise powers under section 62 of the Regulation.

III. The Chief Forest-Officer of the Province, all Deputy Conservators, Assistant Conservators, Extra Deputy Conservators, and Extra Assistant Conservators in charge of Forest Divisions shall have power to permit acts to be done in reserved forests under section 26, subject to such conditions, and to the payment of such royalties, fees, or other charges, as the Conservator may, from time to time, prescribe.

IV. The Chief Forest-Officer of the Province, all Deputy Conservators, Assistant Conservators, Extra Deputy Conservators, Extra Assistant Conservators, Rangers, Foresters, and Forest Guards, whether on permanent or temporary establishments, shall exercise powers under sections 52, 53, and 76 of the Assam Forest Regulation.

Rewards.

I. All non-gazetted Government officers and persons not in the employ of Government are eligible for rewards under these rules.

* Chief Commissioner's Notifications No. 3959-R., dated the 23rd September 1896, and No. 3027 R., dated the 23rd June 1896.

II. Any Magistrate convicting an offender of any forest offence, or directing the confiscation of any property under section 51 or section 53 of the Regulation, may grant, in such proportion as he thinks fit, to any person or persons who have contributed to the seizure of the property or the conviction of the offender, a reward not exceeding the value of the property confiscated, *plus* the amount of any fine imposed.

III. The Forest-Officer prosecuting the case may, if no reward is granted by the Magistrate, apply to the Magistrate for orders regarding the distribution of fines and the value of forfeitures. In the event of the Magistrate refusing to pass orders or to grant a reward, reference may be made by the Conservator of Forests to the Local Government.

IV. Rewards granted under these rules shall be disbursed at once if they are less than Rs. 100. If they are over Rs. 100, that sum only will be disbursed at once, and the rest after the period of appeal has expired or the appeal has been rejected. In the event of the conviction being reversed on appeal, the amount paid in rewards shall not be recovered from the persons to whom it has been paid, unless it shall appear that they have acted fraudulently.

V. In cases where, under section 62 of the Assam Forest Regulation, a Forest Officer has accepted a sum of money as compensation for any damage which has been committed, the Conservator of Forests may authorise the payment of a portion of the amount realised as a reward to any person who may have contributed to the discovery of the offender.

6. Protection of Reserved Forests from Fire.

* The following Rules are made by the Chief Commissioner under section 25, clauses (b) and (c) of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and shall apply to the Goálpára, Kámrúp, Darrang, Nowgong, Khási and Jaintia Hills, and Gáo Hills districts, with effect from the 1st February 1897 :

I. No person shall, within a forest reserve which is specially protected from fire or along its boundaries, kindle or carry any fire, or leave any fire burning, otherwise than as provided in Rule IV.

II. Between the 1st February and 31st May, no person desirous of clearing by fire any standing forest or grass land within half a mile of the boundary of a forest reserve which is specially protected from fire, or of burning rubbish within such distance of such a reserve, shall do so otherwise than in accordance with the following rules :

(1) Notice of such desire shall be given at least one week beforehand to the nearest local range forest official, or to whoever may be in charge of the range office at the time.

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 3356-B., dated the 17th August 1896.

- (2) He shall choose for such burning a day or time when a high wind is not blowing.
- (3) He shall take every precaution that the fire does not spread beyond the limits of the land to be burnt over, or of the heaps into which the rubbish to be burnt may have been made, and in case of accident shall render every assistance in preventing the fire from spreading into the reserve.

III. Any person collecting inflammable forest-produce, such as grass or bamboos, on land adjoining a forest reserve, and any holder of a permit to collect such produce from the forest reserve, shall stack the material so collected in an open space.

IV. All persons travelling on roads, paths, or tracks, passing through, or along the boundary of, a forest reserve which is specially protected from fire, shall camp only at such places as may be cleared and set apart for such purpose by the Divisional Forest-Officer, who shall yearly publish a list of such camping grounds. Camping at localities other than those so set apart along such roads, paths, or tracks, is prohibited. Persons using such camping grounds shall light any fires they may require for cooking or other purposes in such a way as not to endanger the forest reserve, or the buildings, or other property, on the camping grounds.

7. Reserved Trees.

* Under the provisions of section 32(a) of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and in supersession of Notifications No. 17, dated the 13th April 1883, and No. 51, dated the 1st September 1886, the Chief Commissioner declares that, from the date of publication of this Notification, all trees of the undermentioned kinds standing on any land at the disposal of Government shall be reserved trees:

Native names.					Botanical names.
1. Sál	...	...	...	...	<i>Shorea robusta.</i>
2. Tita sapa	...	...	...	...	<i>Michelia champaca.</i>
3. Járúl or ajhar	...	...	...	...	<i>Lagerstræmia Reginæ.</i>
4. Nágesvar or náhor	...	...	...	...	<i>Mesua ferrea.</i>
5. Sám or chám	...	...	...	...	<i>Artocarpus chaplasha.</i>
6. Pomá	...	...	...	...	<i>Cedrela Toona.</i>

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 608-B., dated the 22nd February 1895.

Native names.		Botanical names.
7. Gomari or gomai	...	... <i>Gmelina arborea</i> .
8. Nauri or mirtenga	...	... <i>Bursera serrata</i> .
9. Khara or khair	...	... <i>Acacia catechu</i> .
10. Paroli	...	... <i>Stereospermum chelonoides</i> .
11. Gugra or makria	...	... <i>Schima molis</i> .
12. Sida	...	... <i>Lagerstræmia parviflora</i> .
13. Amari	...	... <i>Amora spectabilis</i> .
14. Gunserai or gundroi	...	... <i>Cinnamomum glanduliferum</i> .
15. Koroi	...	... <i>Albizzia procera</i> .
16. Bola	...	... <i>Morus lævigata</i> .
17. Uriam	...	... <i>Bischoffia Javanica</i> .
18. Kurtá	...	... <i>Isonandra polyantha</i> .
19. Jhalná	...	... <i>Terminalia bicolorata</i> .
20. Rátá	...	... <i>Dysoxylum binectariferum</i> .
21. Ping	...	... <i>Cynometra polyandra</i> .
22. Jinári	...	... <i>Podocarpus bracteata</i> .
23. Karal	...	... <i>Dipterocarpus sp.</i>
24. Makai	...	... <i>Shorea Assamica</i> .
25. India-rubber tree or bar	...	... <i>Ficus Elastica</i> .
26. Sonalu or sonaru	...	... <i>Cassia Fistula</i> .
27. Khakan	...	... <i>Duabanga Soneratioides</i> .

8. River Rules.

* Under the provisions of section 40 of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII

Notification dated the 27th March 1877.

"	No. 18,	dated the 10th August 1880.
"	" 19,	" 10th August 1880.
"	" 32,	" 5th November 1880.
"	" 10,	" 27th April 1882.
"	" 22,	" 16th May 1883.
"	" 6,	" 22nd February 1884.
"	" 9,	" 13th March 1885.
"	" 32,	" 19th November 1885.
"	" 5,	" 25th January 1887.
"	" 18,	" 21st March 1887.
"	" 50,	" 19th August 1887.
"	" 19,	" 31st May 1888.
"	" 20,	" 31st May 1888.
"	" 24,	" 28th June 1888.
"	" 44,	" 19th December 1888.
"	" 13,	" 17th April 1889.
"	" 19,	" 5th July 1889.
"	" 40,	" 4th December 1889.

of 1891, and in supersession of
the Notifications marginally noted,
the Chief Commissioner makes the
following rules regulating the
transit of forest produce :

Assam Valley River Rules.

1. The following rivers, as defined in the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, shall be kept open for the transport of timber or forest-produce in

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 610-B., dated the 22nd February 1895.

the Assam Valley districts, and shall come under the operation of the following rules :

Goalpāra District.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Sankos and tributaries. | 6. Manás and tributaries. | 12. Jinjírám and tributaries. |
| 2. Gangádhar and tributaries. | 7. Singrá and tributaries. | 13. Brahmaputra and all |
| 3. Tipkái and tributaries. | 8. Garua and tributaries. | sutás, horás, etc., which |
| 4. Gauráng and tributaries. | 9. Phulnáí and tributaries. | are confluent with it. |
| 5. Chámpamáti and tributaries. | 10. Kálpáni and tributaries. | |
| | 11. Dudhnái and tributaries. | |

Kámrup District.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Kulsi and Hattikonda and their tributaries. | 6. Kolupkhari Ján. | 9. Tingá Khál, Sunkhorá Nadi, and the Niá Nadi with tributaries. |
| 2. The Kulsi Khál. | 7. Hahúer and Khurkhuri Nadis. | 10. Chotapáni and Surkhi Nadis. |
| 3. Dárgiang Nadi. | 8. Bátá river and Muria or Moirá river with their feeders. | 11. Baralu Nadi. |
| 4. Dungi and Barábakro Dungos. | | |
| 5. Kindumaráng Ján. | | |

Darrang District.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Bar Nadi. | 5. Rautá. | 9. Bargáng. |
| 2. Noá Nadi, or Bhálá Nadi. | 6. Belsiri. | 10. Burai. |
| 3. Nonái Nadi. | 7. Bhairavi. | |
| 4. Dhansiri. | 8. Geladhari. | |

Nowgong District.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Jamuna and tributaries. | 4. Kiling and tributaries. | 7. Disnal Nadi. |
| 2. Kapili and tributaries. | 5. Gangádisa. | 8. Harina Nadi. |
| 3. Kalang and tributaries. | 6. Dikharu. | |

Sibságar District.

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Disang. | 3. Bhogdái. |
| 2. Dikhu. | 4. Dhansiri. |

Lakhimpur District.

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Brahmaputra. | 16. Sonái Nadi. | 31. Dikhunján. |
| 2. Dihing. | 17. Desám " | 32. Kakarkotá. |
| 3. Disang. | 18. Derái " | 33. Larunján. |
| 4. Noá Dihing. | 19. Sisi Nadi. | 34. Kherkotia Hutis. |
| 5. Diráh. | 20. Kondil Nadi. | 35. Dikrang. |
| 6. Koliapáni. | 21. Garmaráh Nadi. | 36. Hajunparaján. |
| 7. Tengápáni. | 22. Sálkhawáján. | 37. Bhográ Nadi. |
| 8. Kerwá Nadi. | 23. Maitung Ján. | 38. Dhikrájali. |
| 9. Dángári " | 24. Rangá Ján. | 39. Sásn Nadi. |
| 10. Dum-Dum " | 25. Tiphukján. | 40. Rangá " |
| 11. Dibru " | 26. Likaján. | 41. Dirju " |
| 12. Tingrái " | 27. Dádiáján. | 42. Jaihing " |
| 13. Sessa " | 28. Momáriján. | 43. Dhal Nadi. |
| 14. Tipling " | 29. Dinján. | 44. Kadám Nadi. |
| 15. Digboy " | 30. Mekhlá Nadi. | 45. Ghágar. |

Lakhimpur District—continued.

46. Jiádolong.	48. Dirpái Nadi.	51. Sám párá.
47. Subansiri and its various sutis.	49. Noánái.	52. Kurhu
	50. Kumátiá.	53. Chári Káriá.
	54. Dhal.	

2. All timber and other forest-produce brought down any river in the Assam Valley districts shall be stopped for examination, for marking in such manner as the Chief Commissioner may from time to time direct, and for the payment of the amounts, if any, due to Government thereon, whether as duty, royalty, or on any other account, at the first of the following revenue stations, or of such other revenue stations as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, notify in the *Assam Gazette*, and shall not be removed from the place at which it is so stopped until the amount (if any) due as aforesaid has been paid, and unless it is covered by a pass as hereinafter provided :

1. Sadiya	} in the Lakhimpur district.	5. Dhubri	} in the Goalpara district.
2. Dibrugarh		6. Fakirganj	
3. Mekhla			
4. Dehingmukh			

3. (1) In the case of—

- (a) timber brought down under a Forest Department permit ; or
- (b) timber brought down from private land and covered by a printed certificate of origin in the form given in Appendix A to these Rules stamped by the owner of the land or by his agent duly authorised on that behalf ; and which signature and stamp have been registered in the local Divisional Forest Office ; or
- (c) timber brought down by hillmen, and which timber is covered by a pass granted by the Assistant Political Officer, Sadiya, or by the Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur ;

the permit or certificate, or pass when endorsed by the Forest-Officer in charge of the revenue-station shall be deemed to be the pass required by Rule 2.

(2) In all other cases the pass required by Rule 2 must be granted by the Forest-Officer in charge of the revenue-station in such form as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, prescribe in this behalf.

4. For the endorsement under Rule 3 (1) (a) of a permit, which shows royalty to be still due, and for the grant of a pass under Rule 3 (2), a fee shall be payable to the Forest-Officer in charge of the revenue-station according to the nature and quantity of the timber or other forest-produce at the following rates, *viz.*:

(1) In the case of every raft of timber or bamboos, or boat carrying timber or bamboos, a fee of one rupee.

If less than 10 logs or 1,000 bamboos, half this rate.

(2) In the case of every raft of cane, or boat carrying cane, a fee of eight annas.

If less than 50 bundles, half this rate.

(3) In the case of every raft of thatching-grass and reeds or ekra or boat carrying the same, four annas.

(4) In the case of every dugout, eight annas.

5. Except under cover of a forest permit showing that payment of the amount due to Government in respect of the timber or other produce mentioned therein, whether as duty, royalty, or on any other account, has been made, or of a written pass from the District Forest-Officer or other Forest-Officer duly authorised in that behalf, or of a pass granted by the Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur in case of hillmen, no timber or other forest-produce in transit on any river in the valley districts of Assam shall be landed, or removed inland, nor may such timber be cut up or converted before it has reached a revenue-station :

Provided that nothing in this rule shall apply to forest produce brought from private lands and not exceeding the following quantities in any one raft or boat, *viz.*:

- (1) In the case of timber, 10 logs. | (2) In the case of bamboos, 1,000.
(3) In the case of cane, 50 bundles.

6. All timber and other forest-produce which is brought down any river in the Assam Valley districts may be stopped and examined by any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer, and the persons in charge of such timber or forest-produce shall be bound to produce any permits or passes which may have been granted to them for such timber or forest-produce, when called upon to do so by such Forest-Officer or Police-Officer.

The following rates of royalty are prescribed to be paid on timber floated on any river in the valley districts of Assam, and which is the property of Government, or was produced on land at the disposal of Government, and on which royalty has not been paid under these rules :

<i>Logs of Sál.</i>		<i>Logs of Unreserved Timber.</i>	
If under 10 feet in length, Rs. 2-8 per log.		If under 15 feet in length, Re. 1 per log.	
If from 10 feet to 15 feet in length, Rs. 5 per log.		If over 15 feet in length, Rs. 2 per log.	
If over 15 feet in length, Rs. 10 per log.		<i>Boats or Dugouts.</i>	
<i>Logs of Reserved Timber other than Sál.</i>		If of sál, Rs. 10 each.	
If under 10 feet in length, Re. 1-8 per log.		If of other kinds, Rs. 6 each.	
If from over 10 feet to 15 feet in length, Rs. 3 per log.		<i>Bamboos.</i>	
If over 15 feet in length, Rs. 6 per log.		Jungli or kata bamboo, Re. 1 per hundred.	
		Jati bamboo, Rs. 2 per hundred.	
		Bhaluka bamboo, Rs. 3 per hundred.	

Charcoal per maund, or for every nine cubic feet, 2 annas.

Bhutan Timber Rules.

7. All timber which it is intended to import from Bhutan into or through the Province of Assam shall be stopped for examination at the British boundary and be reported to the District Forest-Officer, or any other Forest-Officer authorised in that behalf, and shall not be imported into the Province of Assam until it has been examined and marked.

8. All timber brought down by the Langá, Gorápila, Champámati, Gángiá, or Sankos rivers, or any of their tributaries in the district of Goálpára, shall be stopped for examination, and be reported to the District Forest-Officer, or other Forest-Officer authorised in that behalf, at the following places :

Dátmá, on the *Langá* river ;

Rajáddbri, on the *Gorápila* river ;

Gorubásá, on the *Chámpámati* river ;

Baragáon, on the *Manás* river ;

Bárimukh, on the *Gángiá* river ;

Támahát, on the *Sankos* river ;

Bijnighat, on the *Goñmai* river ;

or at such other places as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, prescribe by notification in the *Assam Gazette*.

9. The Divisional Forest-Officer, or other Forest-Officer authorised in that behalf, shall, if requested to do so by the person in charge of timber so brought down, grant a pass for the same in such form as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, prescribe.

The following fees shall be charged for each such pass :

For each log not exceeding 3 feet in girth	...	...	...	<i>As.</i>
For each log exceeding 3 feet in girth, and for each boat or dugout	...	...	...	4
			...	8

No person shall remove any timber from any place at which the same has been stopped under Rule 8 until a pass has been granted as prescribed in this rule.

10. Should the person in charge of any timber brought down the Langá, Gorápila, Chámpámati, Gángiá or Sankos rivers, or any of their tributaries in the district of Goálpára, desire to land such timber before reaching any of the places prescribed under Rule 8 as places for the stoppage thereof, they shall obtain the permission in writing of the District Forest-Officer, or other Forest-Officer who may be authorised in that behalf. If such officer deem fit to grant such permission, he shall examine the timber and shall grant a pass as prescribed in Rule 9.

11. Except with the permission in writing of the District Forest-Officer, or such other Forest-Officer authorised in that behalf, no timber in transit

on the Langá, Gorápílá, Chámpámati, Gángiá or Sankos rivers, or any of their tributaries in the district of Goálpára, may be landed or removed inland, nor may such timber be cut up or converted before a pass has been granted by the Forest-Officer for the same.

12. All timber, when in transit in the Goálpára district, either by land or by river, may be stopped and examined by any Forest or Police-Officer, and the persons in charge of such timber shall be bound to produce any passes which may have been granted to them, when called upon to do so by any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer.

13. If any person infringes any of the above rules, he shall be punished with imprisonment of either description, which may extend to six months or with fine, which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

Surma Valley River Rules.

14. The following rivers as defined in the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, shall be kept open for the transport of timber or forest-produce in the Surmá Valley districts, and shall come under the operation of the following rules :

Sylhet District.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Langái and tributaries. | 10. Hari and tributaries. |
| 2. Singlá ditto. | 11. Nungáng ditto. |
| 3. Surmá ditto. | 12. Barák ditto. |
| 4. Kusiárá ditto. | 13. Gopla ditto. |
| 5. Juri ditto. | 14. Khoai ditto. |
| 6. Thal ditto. | 15. Karángi ditto. |
| 7. Khurti ditto. | 16. Manu ditto. |
| 8. Dona ditto. | 17. Dhálai ditto. |
| 9. Lubá ditto. | 18. Line (with its tributaries the Huro, Hingori, and Kuffring). |

Cachar District.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Barák and tributaries. | 9. Jugicherra and tributaries. |
| 2. Jhiri ditto. | 10. Kátákhál ditto. |
| 3. Digli ditto. | 11. Jalingá ditto. |
| 4. Sonái ditto. | 12. Játingá ditto. |
| 5. Chinjur ditto. | 13. Báleswa ditto. |
| 6. Rukmini ditto. | 14. Gumrah ditto. |
| 7. Dhálesvari ditto. | 15. Rupácherra Bil ditto. |
| 8. Kukicherra ditto. | |

15. Passes may be granted for all timber and other forest-produce brought down by the rivers mentioned in Rule 14 at the revenue stations

mentioned below, or at such other revenue-stations as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, notify in the *Assam Gazette*:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Páthárákándi Tahsil Office. | 6. Muchikandi on the Khoai river. |
| 2. Pathárá Forest Office. | 7. Dinárpur on the Gopla river. |
| 3. Kanaighát ditto. | 8. Silchar. |
| 4. Siluá on the Juri river. | 9. Sonáimukh. |
| 5. Maulvi Bazár on the Manu river. | 10. Sialtek. |
11. Matijuri.

16. All amounts due to Government in respect of such timber or forest-produce, whether as duty, royalty, or on any other account, shall be paid into the Patharkandi tahsil office or into the Silchar tahsil treasury, or into the Hailakandi or Katigora tahsil treasuries, or at such other places as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, by notification in the *Assam Gazette* prescribe, and the treasury receipts shall be handed to the Forest-Officer in charge of the revenue-stations, who shall thereupon, if requested to do so by the person in charge of such timber or forest-produce, grant a pass for the same, in such form as the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, prescribe.

17. If such timber or other forest-produce is brought from private land in British India in respect of which the Government has not the right to levy a royalty or other payment, and accordingly nothing is due to Government thereon, the Forest-Officer shall grant a pass for the same on production of a printed certificate in the form given in Appendix A to these Rules and stamped by the owner of the land whence the timber or other forest-produce has been derived, or by his agent authorised in that behalf, and which signature and stamp have been registered in the local Divisional Forest Office. Such certificate, if a pass has been granted in exchange for it, shall be retained by the officer granting the same, provided that the Forest-Officer may decline to grant such pass if he has reason to believe the certificate to be false. No pass shall be granted, except in exchange either for a treasury receipt or for a certificate as hereinbefore provided.

18. For the issue of such passes, fees will be levied as follows:

Rs. a.

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) For every raft of timber or bamboos or boat carrying timber or bamboos, and for every raft or boat carrying charcoal | ... | 1 | 0 |
| If less than 10 logs, 1,000 bamboos or 500 maunds of charcoal, half this fee. | | | |
| (2) For every raft of canes or boat carrying canes | ... | 0 | 8 |
| If less than 50 bundles, half this fee. | | | |
| (3) For every raft of thatching-grass and reeds or <i>ekra</i> , or boat carrying the same | ... | ... | ... |

Provided that no fees shall be levied for passes granted in respect of timber and other forest-produce brought from private land in British India.

19. No other person shall move any timber or other forest produce below any of the said stations, until a pass has been granted by the Forest-Officer in charge of such station.

20. Should the persons in charge of any timber or other forest-produce brought down the rivers mentioned in Rule 14 or any of their tributaries or any other rivers which the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, notify in the *Assam Gazette*, desire to land such timber or other forest-produce before reaching any of the said stations, they shall obtain the permission in writing of the Forest-Officer in charge of the nearest station. If such officer deem fit to grant such permission, he shall examine and measure the timber and other forest-produce, and shall, on being handed the treasury receipt acknowledging payment of the amount due to Government thereon, or in lieu thereof a certificate of origin as prescribed in Rule 3(b), grant a pass as hereinbefore prescribed.

21. Except with the permission in writing of the Forest-Officer, no timber or other forest-produce in transit on the rivers mentioned in Rule 14 or any of their tributaries or any other rivers which the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, notify in the *Assam Gazette*, may be landed or removed inland, nor may such timber be cut up, or converted, before a pass has been granted by the Forest-Officer for the same.

22. All timber and other forest produce which is brought down the rivers mentioned in Rule 14 or any of their tributaries or any other rivers which the Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, notify in the *Assam Gazette*, may be stopped and inspected by any Forest-Officer or Police-Officer, and all persons in charge of such timber or forest-produce shall be bound to produce any passes which may have been granted to them under these rules when called upon to do so by such Forest-Officer or Police-Officer.

23. It is prohibited to erect or open out any sawpit on the banks of the Barák and Kátákhál rivers for the conversion or cutting up of timber, without the previous sanction of the Divisional Forest-Officer. Such sanction, if obtained, may, with the approval of the Conservator of Forests, and by giving six months' notice, be rescinded or modified by the Divisional Forest-Officer.

Registration of Property Marks.

24. All traders wishing to float or otherwise convey timber by any river in any district shall register their trade or timber marks in the local Divisional Forest-Office to indicate their proprietary right in such timber, and no pass shall be issued for any unmarked timber

Provided that any person having timber in transit on a river at the date of the publication of these rules may obtain a pass for such timber within six months from such date, though the timber be unmarked or the marks be unregistered.

A fee of Rs. 5 will be levied for each registered timber mark, and no timber trader will be permitted to register more than three such marks. The Divisional Forest-Officer is authorised to refuse or cancel the registration of any timber mark.

25. The registration of a timber mark shall hold good for a period of three years, and a certificate to that effect in the following form shall be granted to the timber trader by the Divisional Forest-Officer :

C E R T I F I C A T E .

— FOREST DIVISION.

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that
son of _____ caste
residence of _____ tahsil
_____ district

has this day duly registered his timber mark for floating timber in the river as per symbol below.

This certificate is to hold good up to

Dated _____ Divisional Forest-Officer.

26. The marking or supermarking of timber except with a registered brand, the altering or effacing of any marks from such timber, and the possession or carrying of unregistered timber marking hammers, or other instruments used for marking timber, is prohibited.

27. If any person infringes any of the above rules, he shall be punished with imprisonment of either description, which may extend to six months, or with fine, which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

APPENDIX A.—(RULES 3(b), 17, AND 20.)

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN REQUIRED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ASSAM VALLEY AND SURMA VALLEY RIVER RULES FOR PRIVATE TIMBER OR OTHER FOREST-PRODUCE.

1. Name, caste, and father's name of the owner of the land whence the forest-produce covered by this certificate was derived.

2. Residence of the owner of the land whence the forest-produce covered by this certificate was derived.

3. Name of village or estate where the timber or other forest-produce was cut.

4. Description of the timber or other forest-produce.

5. Amount of the timber or other forest-produce.

6. Name, caste, father's name, and residence of person in charge of the timber or other forest-produce.

7. Destination to which the timber or other forest-produce is to be conveyed.

8. I, A. B., son of C. D., the person named in the first entry above (or his agent duly empowered to grant this certificate), do hereby declare that the timber (or other forest-produce, as the case may be), specified in this certificate, was cut upon my (or my principal's) private land, and that no portion of the said timber (or other forest-produce, as the case may be) is the property of Government, or was produced on Government land.

9. Sporting Rules for Reserved Forests.

* Under the provisions of sections 72 and 24(c) of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and in supersession of the rules published under Notification No. 21, dated the 10th July 1889, the Chief Commissioner publishes the following rules for general information :

1. The hunting of elephants in Government reserved forests is permitted only under such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed by the Chief Commissioner.

2. The poisoning of waters standing in Government reserved forests, or of water flowing into or through such forests for any purpose whatever, or the dynamiting or use of explosives of any description in such water, is prohibited.

3. Unless specially exempted by the Local Government from the application of this rule, no person shall hunt, shoot, or fish in a reserved forest without a license, or set traps or snares therein.

4. Such license may be granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Subdivisional Officer, or Forest-Officer having authority in the local area in which such reserved forest is situated.

5. Such a license may not allow hunting or shooting in the reserves of the Gáro Hills, Goálpára, Kámrúp, Darrang, and Nowgong districts during the season when forest fires most commonly occur, namely, during the months of February, March, April, and May, or the hunting or shooting of any species in respect of which the Chief Commissioner has directed the observance of a close season during the term of such close season.

6. Such license shall be in the form given below, and a fee of ten rupees shall be charged for the issue thereof :

LICENSE TO HUNT, SHOOT, OR FISH WITHIN A RESERVED FOREST.

Fee Rs. 10.

[OBVERSE.]

License to hunt, shoot, or fish within the	reserved forest during
the year ending	or (in the case of the Gáro Hills, Goálpára, Kámrúp,

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 607-R., dated the 22nd February 1895, as amended by Notification No. 4687-R., dated the 29th November 1895.

Darrang, and Nowgong districts) during the *eight* months beginning on the 1st June and ending on the last day of *January* is granted under Rules 3—5 of the Rules issued under Notification No. , dated the subject to the conditions specified on the reverse.

- (a) To
- (b) Of
- (c) Age
- (d) Height
- (e) Distinguishing marks

The day of 18 . (Signature of Officer granting the license.)

[REVERSE.]

Conditions subject to which this license is granted—

- (1) Game of any species in respect of which the Chief Commissioner has directed the observance of a close season during the time of such close season shall not be hunted or shot.
- (2) No wild elephant shall be hunted, shot at, killed, injured, or captured.
- (3) The setting of traps or snares is prohibited.

Breach of any of the conditions of this license will render the license liable to forfeiture, in addition to any punishment to which the holder thereof may be liable under the law.

10. Transport of Forest Produce.

* In exercise of the powers conferred by section 40(2) of the Assam Forest Regulation (VII of 1891), the Chief Commissioner declares that from the 1st April 1894 Ajhara, which is situated in the Kāmrup district at the junction of the Rani road with the trunk road from Goálpára, shall be a check station to which all forest-produce removed from the Rani range shall be brought for examination and for the payment of the amounts, if any, due to Government thereon, whether as duty, royalty, or on any other account.

Any person infringing the above rule will be liable, under section 41(1) of the above Regulation, to imprisonment, which shall not exceed six months, or to punishment by fine, which shall not exceed five hundred rupees, or to both.

† In exercise of the powers conferred by section 40 of the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891, the Chief Commissioner directs that the following shall be the routes by which alone all forest-produce shall be exported from, or

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 2983-R., dated the 3rd July 1894.

† Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 5492-R., dated the 29th November 1894.

moved within, the district of Kámrúp, with effect from the date of this Notification :

ROADS.	RIVERS.
1. Rani-Gauháti road.	1. Batha river.
2. Rani-Palasbari road.	2. Kulsi river and its tributaries.
3. Loharghat-Palasbari road.	3. Boko river and its tributaries.
4. Loharghat-Rani road.	4. Singra river and its tributaries.
5. Gauháti-Goálpára Trunk Road.	

The Chief Commissioner further directs that the following shall be the revenue-stations to which all forest-produce shall be taken by the persons in charge of it for examination or for realisation of any royalty due thereon to Government :

1. Kulsi range office.	4. Boko range office.
2. Kukurmara depôt.	5. Loharghat range office.
3. Nagarbera „	6. Rani range office.

If any person infringes any of the provisions of this rule, he shall be punished, under section 41 of the above Regulation, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

II. Unclassed State Forests.

* Under the provisions of sections 33, 34 (2) (*c, e, g, and h*), and 35 (2) of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and in supersession of the rules published under Notification No. 3926-R., dated the 21st September 1896, as amended by Notifications No. 5013-R., dated the 23rd November 1896, and No. 5181, dated the 7th December 1896, the Chief Commissioner publishes, for general information, the following revised rules relating to the use of forest-produce of land at the disposal of Government in the plains districts of the Province and not included in a reserved forest or village forest, as sanctioned by the Chief Commissioner :

1. (*a*) In these rules the expression “ unclassified State forest ” means any land at the disposal of Government and not included in a reserved or village forest, but the Chief Commissioner can declare any area defined by unmistakable boundaries to be exempt from the application of the Rules for unclassified State forests.

(*b*) These rules shall apply to forest land taken up for ordinary or special cultivation, only to the extent laid down in each case in the leases granted under the Assam Settlement Rules.

(*c*) In regard to lands applied for for ordinary or special cultivation, all extraction of forest-produce, including timber, shall, as a rule, be suspended; but if such extraction is authorised, these rules shall be in force, unless the land has been exempted from their application under the orders of the Chief Commissioner.

* Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 2349-R., dated the 20th December 1897.

II. In unclassified State forests—

- (a) no reserved tree shall be felled, cut, girdled, marked, lopped, tapped or injured by fire or otherwise, except under a trade permit as defined in Rule III, granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Divisional Forest-Officer, or other authorised official empowered in this behalf, or under a written order of the Local Government, or of the Conservator of Forests ;
- (b) no unreserved timber or other forest-produce of the classes mentioned in the schedule attached to Rule VII shall be felled, cut, girdled, lopped, tapped, or injured by fire, subjected to any process of conversion, collected, or removed, without a permit in such form as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Local Government, and which shall be granted by an authorised Forest-Officer or by a tahsildar or mauzadar authorised by the Deputy Commissioner or Divisional Forest-Officer in this behalf.

III. Permits granted under Rule II shall be of two kinds, *viz.*,—(1) trade permits for timber, reserved or unreserved, or other forest-produce cut, collected or removed for purposes of trade, and (2) home consumption permits for unreserved timber and other forest-produce removed by settlement-holders or other authorised persons for their own use only, and not for sale. Neither trade permits nor home consumption permits are transferable.

Explanation.—A settlement-holder in this rule means any person who has taken up land for ordinary cultivation, as defined in the Settlement Rules of the Province, at full revenue rates. It also includes the tenant of such a settlement-holder, or of a *nisf-khirajdar* or of a *la-khirajdar* other than a waste land grantee, and also the actual cultivator of land held for ordinary cultivation.

IV. Throughout the Assam Valley districts a fee of eight annas shall be charged on all trade permits in addition to the royalty payable on the forest-produce for which the permit is issued. Ordinary home consumption permits shall be issued free of charge, but special permits granted under Rule VIII shall be charged for at the rate of eight annas per permit.

V. In the districts of Cachar and Sylhet trade permits shall be charged for at the following rates in addition to royalty :

Rs. A. P.

Each trade permit to cut timber or other forest-produce for six months or any shorter period terminating on the 30th September or on the 31st of March	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Each permit for one elephant to drag timber for one year or any shorter period terminating on the 31st March	...	...	...	...	1		

Ordinary home consumption permits shall be charged for at the following rates :

Rs. A. P.

Each permit per house (*khana*, not *bari*) for the financial year (from 1st of April to the 31st March) or any shorter period terminating on the 31st March 1 0 0

Special permits shall be charged for at the rate of Rs. 2 per permit.

VI. Trade permits shall ordinarily be issued for any period not exceeding twelve months, but the period of any such permit may be extended up to a further maximum of twelve months at the discretion of the Divisional Forest-Officer, and on the payment of a fine which shall not exceed 25 per cent. of the value of the forest-produce purchased under the permit.

VII. The following fees and royalties shall be charged on forest-produce removed from unclassified State forests under a trade permit :

Schedule of Rates of Royalty leviable on timber and other forest-produce removed from unclassified State forests.

Name of district.	Description of forest-produce.	Rate.
1	2	3
Assam Valley districts and North Cachar Hills.	(1) For every <i>sdl</i> tree over 4½' in girth measured at a height of 4 feet from the ground.	Rs. 10 each, or 6 annas a cubic foot, up to a maximum of Rs. 10, at the option of the permit-holder.
	(2) For dead <i>sdl</i> logs over 3' up to 4½' in girth.	6 annas a cubic foot.
	(3) For dead <i>sdl</i> posts from 2' up to 3' girth, inclusive, any length above 12'.	Re. 1-8 each.
	(4) For dead <i>sdl</i> posts under 2' girth, any length above 12'.	8 annas each.
	(5) For dead <i>sdl</i> posts under 3' girth and under 12' length.	8 " "
	(6) For dead <i>sdl</i> posts under 2' girth and under 12' length.	4 " "
	(7) For sawn or squared dead <i>sdl</i> timber...	25 per cent. in addition to the above rates.
	(8) For all other reserved trees ...	Rs. 6 each, or 4 annas a cubic foot, up to a maximum of Rs. 6, at the option of the permit-holder.
	(9) For dead wood of reserved trees other than <i>sdl</i> over 3' up to 4½' in girth.	4 annas a cubic foot, up to a maximum of Rs. 6.

Schedule of Rates of Royalty leviable on timber and other forest-produce removed from unclassified State forests—continued.

Name of district.	Description of forest-produce.	Rate.
1	2	3
Assam Valley districts and North Cachar Hills— <i>contd.</i>	(10) For dead posts of reserved trees other than <i>sāl</i> from 2' to 3' girth, inclusive, and above 12' length.	12 annas each.
	(11) For dead posts of reserved trees other than <i>sāl</i> under 2' girth and above 12' length.	6 " "
	(12) For dead posts of reserved trees other than <i>sāl</i> from 2' to 3' girth, inclusive, and under 12' length.	6 " "
	(13) For dead posts of reserved trees other than <i>sāl</i> under 2' girth and under 12' length.	3 " "
	(14) For sawn or squared dead timber ...	25 per cent. in addition to the above rates.
	(15) For any other unreserved tree ...	Rs. 2 each, or 1 anna per cubic foot, up to a maximum of Rs. 2, at the option of the permit-holder.
	(16) For each unreserved pole or sapling ...	1 anna.
	(17) For each boat or dugout ...	The royalty payable on the tree from which it is cut.
	(18) For 100 <i>kata</i> bamboos ...	Re. 1.
	(19) For 100 <i>jati</i> bamboos ...	Rs. 2.
	(20) For 100 <i>bhaluka</i> bamboos ...	Rs. 3.
	(21) For 100 bundles of cane of 10 pieces each.	As. 12.
	(22) For every maund (9' cubic) of charcoal	If manufactured in the forest, 2 annas.
	(23) For one monthly fuel permit ...	Re. 1.
	or, at the option of the purchaser, for every maund of firewood.	6 pies.
	(24) For one annual fuel permit ...	Rs. 9.
	(25) <i>San</i> or thatching-grass, if exported beyond Dhubri and Fakirganj.	For raft of 100' (cubic), 4 annas; per 100 bundles, 4 annas.
	(26) Reeds (<i>ekra</i> or <i>nal</i>), per bundle, if exported beyond Dhubri or Fakirganj.	6 pies.

Schedule of Rates of Royalty leviable on timber and other forest-produce removed from unclassified State forests—concluded.

Name of district.	Description of forest-produce.	Rate.
1	2	3
Surma Valley districts.	(1) For every cubic foot of timber in the rough of the following kinds:	Rs. A. P.
	<i>Jarul Nageswar, Sam or Cham, Gundroi.</i>	0 4 0
	<i>Kurta, Rata, Poma, Joki, Tailo, Shundi, Karal, Jam, Ping.</i>	0 3 0
	All other kinds, per cubic foot ...	0 1 0
	(2) For every cubic foot of converted timber, the above rates with an addition of 25 per cent.	
	(3) (a) For every one hundred <i>Muli, Pecha, and Dolu</i> bamboos.	0 4 0
	(b) For every one hundred <i>Tengra</i> bamboos.	0 2 0
	(c) For every one hundred bamboos all other kinds.	0 1 0
	(4) For every thousand bamboos ...	2 8 0
	(5) For each <i>Chima</i> or rafter ...	0 2 0
	(6) For each monthly fuel permit ...	1 0 0
	(7) For each annual ditto ...	9 0 0
	(8) For every hundred bundles of cane (all varieties) at 76 pieces each (1 anna per bundle).	6 4 0
	(9) <i>San</i> or thatching-grass—	
	(a) If brought out on rafts, for every hundred cubic feet (rough outside measurement).	0 4 0
	(b) If otherwise removed, for every hundred bundles.	0 4 0
	(10) For every maund of charcoal ...	0 2 0
	(11) For every maund of firewood ...	0 0 6
	(12) <i>Agar</i> , per basket ...	1 8 0
	(13) Reeds (<i>ekra</i> and <i>nal</i>), per <i>galla</i> or bundle	0 0 6
	(14) Leaves (<i>pati</i>), per thousand <i>dals</i> ...	0 10 0
	(15) For every cubic foot of converted timber imported from the North Lushai Hills.	0 2 0

For Sylhet only.

For Cachar only.

It shall be within the power of the Divisional Forest-Officer to reduce the rates leviable under this schedule for timber up to 25 per cent., if difficulties of extraction or distance from the market demand such concession.

The Conservator of Forests may, under special circumstances, direct a reduction of these rates up to 50 per cent., either for defined localities or in special cases.

VIII. The holder of a home consumption permit may remove free of royalty the following maximum quantities of produce :

				Assam Valley districts.	Surma Valley districts.
Unreserved trees	...	...	Number	4	2
Bamboos	...	...	"	400	200
Canes	...	...	Bundles	10	5
<i>Jalura</i> , or firewood	...	...	Maunds	200	100
<i>San</i> , or thatching-grass	...	...	Bundles	...	200
<i>Ekra</i> or <i>nal</i>	...	...	"	...	10
<i>Pati-dals</i>	...	...	...	...	20

Provided that in the Assam Valley districts, *san* or thatching-grass, *ekra* or *nal*, not required for export beyond Dhubri or Fakirganj, may be removed without restriction from unclassed State forests free of royalty by any settlement-holder, as defined in Rule III, either for trade or home consumption.

If a larger quantity of forest-produce is required than is allowed by this rule, a special permit may be granted by the Deputy Commissioner on sufficient cause being shown.

IX. No dead wood of any kind may be removed for sale from an unclassed State forest, except under a trade permit, but any settlement-holder, as defined in Rule III, may appropriate to his own use dead wood found lying in any unclassed State forest situated in the same mauza in which his holding is situated.

Explanation.—In this rule, the word “mauza” means, in the Assam Valley districts, a fiscal circle ordinarily so designated; elsewhere, it means a village as ordinarily understood in each district.

X. In an unclassed State forest, no lease for any fixed period giving the right of collecting or removing India-rubber, cane, *kath* or cutch, lac, *agar*, or other forest-produce, shall be given without the previous sanction of the Conservator of Forests.

XI. In an unclassed State forest the grazing and pasturing of cattle by or on behalf of a settlement-holder as defined in Rule III is allowed free of payment. Professional graziers and others who herd cattle on behalf of persons solely for trade purposes, or cattle breeding, are prohibited from grazing cattle in such forests, except under the provisions of a trade permit granted by an authorised Forest or other official, and on payment of an

annual grazing fee of eight annas per buffalo, and four annas per head of other horned cattle. Grazing fees will not be levied in the case of cattle less than a year old.

XII. All fees and royalties payable on behalf of any forest-produce collected or removed under these rules shall be paid for previous to the issue of the trade or home consumption permit; but it is left to the discretion of the Conservator of Forests to decide whether such payments shall be recovered in full, or in part, when a trade permit is issued. In no case will forest-produce be permitted to be removed from a forest or from a sale dépôt until the full payment has been recovered from the permit-holder.

XIII. All timber and other forest-produce in respect of which there is reason to believe that any money is payable to Government under these rules when in transit in any part of the province of Assam, may be stopped and examined by any Forest-Officer, and all persons in charge of such timber or other forest-produce shall be bound to produce any permit or certificate or pass which may have been granted to them for its removal when called upon to do so by such Forest-Officer.

XIV. If any person infringes any of the above rules, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

PART III.

EXECUTIVE ORDERS RELATING TO FORESTS.

PART III.

EXECUTIVE ORDERS RELATING TO FORESTS.

SECTION I.—Accounts and Budgets.

1. All disbursing officers should carefully adhere to the rules in force regarding expenditure, and they should clearly understand*—

(a) that they should keep within the sanctioned budget grants under every detailed head of account; and that in the event of expenditure in excess of those grants becoming necessary owing to exceptional causes, they must, before incurring the expenditure, obtain sanction of the officer who controls their expenditure to formal transfer from another minor head if under the same major head; or obtain the sanction of the Chief Commissioner to a transfer if from another major head of account. Previous sanction of the controlling officer to the expenditure which necessitates these transfers must also be obtained.

(b) Every endeavour should be made to keep within the monthly proportion of their grants.

In all cases where expenditure is necessitated in excess of the sanctioned budget grants for minor or major heads, it is absolutely necessary that in applying for sanction to such expenditure a re-appropriation or re-appropriations by means of which the extra expenditure can be met should be suggested. In this connection a statement that the expenditure can be met from general savings in the budget will not be accepted as sufficient; it is necessary in all cases that re-appropriations from specific heads should be suggested, in the absence of which the application will, as a general rule, to be departed from only for very good reasons, be summarily rejected.

Every such proposal for increased expenditure should be submitted with a statement prepared in the following form:

Expenditure proposed to be provided for:

Rs.

off†

on account { Major head.
Minor
Sub-head.
Detailed head.

Amount proposed to be spent during current year

... Rs.

Amount proposed to be spent during further years

... Rs.

* See also Forest Department Code, Chapter III, Parts II and III.

† Here enter full description, mentioning the department, or office, or officer concerned.

Proposed re-appropriation for current year.

1		3	4
H heads of estimate effected by the proposal.*	Actual expenditure up to date of the proposal (vitz.,)	Amounts as in the estimate passed by Government.	Amounts as they will stand after re-appropriation.
(1) Heads under which the proposed expenditure will fall ...			
Total ...			
(2) Heads under which it is proposed to reduce the grants ...			
Total ...			

2. The budget estimates are passed and *sanctioned* before the commencement of the year to which they apply. They *provide* for expenditure within certain limits, and Local Governments have power, subject to well-known rules, to regulate their expenditure within these limits. Outside these limits, no expenditure of any sort whatever can properly be incurred, unless a special additional grant to cover it has been applied for and sanctioned by the Government of India.

The revised estimates (not revised budget estimates, as they are often improperly called) make no provision for any expenditure whatever; they are "accepted" (not "sanctioned") by the Government of India; and no entry in them carries with it any authority for expenditure. They are estimates, pure and simple, prepared for information in order to indicate to Government how far the expenditure already sanctioned will be worked up to.

Sanction to all expenditure in excess of budget provision must be applied for *as soon as it becomes apparent that* such expenditure will be necessary. The application for additional grants has no connection with the revised estimate; the estimates depend on the grant, not the grant upon the estimates.

* The same detail must be shown as in the printed estimates of the Government (or the sanctioned estimate) as the re-appropriation has to be effected by transfer of the figures shown therein.

NOTE.—Any further explanations should be given on reverse, where also, if no re-appropriation is possible the urgency and necessity for the expenditure should be fully explained.

In an application for additional grant, it must be shown—

- (i) that the expenditure is necessary and unavoidable ;
- (ii) that it could not have been foreseen when the budget estimates were prepared, or, if it could have been, it must be explained why the necessary provision was not made ;
- (iii) that it cannot be met by re-appropriation within the budget grant for forest expenditure ;
- (iv) that it cannot be met by re-appropriation from the budget grants under other major heads of expenditure which are controlled by the Local Government.

In all cases the necessity for extra expenditure must be fully explained and justified in detail.

3. (1). The Government of India have recently had under consideration certain applications from Local Governments for additional grants for Provincial and Local expenditure not provided for in the budget estimates of 1896-97. In these applications, instead of precise information being given regarding the nature of urgency of the new or additional expenditure proposed, the sanction of the Government of India was requested in general terms to the excesses of the revised estimates of the year over the budget grants under the various major heads of account.

Revised estimate not acceptable as applications for additional grants.

(2). It appears that, in making them the basis of applications for additional grants, the scope and object of the revised estimates have been imperfectly understood. It is therefore considered necessary to explain that the revised estimates of any year are a mere forecast, as accurate as possible, of what the actual results of the year are likely to be, independently of the question whether there is, or is not, authority for the expenditure included in those estimates ; and that the figures adopted for them are useful only for administrative purposes, and cannot be used for purposes either of budget control or of audit. The acceptance of the revised estimates does not warrant any departure from the rules for controlling and limiting expenditure by budget provision, and the figures of the revised estimates should not be taken as in any way superseding, for purposes of control of expenditure, the budget estimates passed by the Government of India.

(3). The authorised grants made in the letters which convey orders on the budget estimates and any additional grants or re-appropriations made under proper sanction and authority, and not the figures in the revised estimates, should therefore always be made the basis of applications for any necessary additional grants. As soon as it becomes apparent that expenditure in excess

of the budget grant will be necessary under any head and cannot be avoided an application for an additional grant should be made, unless it is within the power of the Local Government to sanction the grant itself. Full explanation of the particular items to which the excess is due and of the reasons for incurring the expenditure should be given; and specific re-appropriations of budget grants should be proposed, or if it is necessary to go beyond the limits of budget grants, specific additional grants should be proposed; nor should the explanations required in these cases refer in any way to the revised estimates. It is not convenient that the revised estimates should be in any way connected with such applications as their acceptance does not imply any sanction to the expenditure included in them.

(4). It is also necessary to point out that additional grants for any year cannot be sanctioned after the close of the year; and that proposals for such grant as well as for re-appropriations of existing grants should therefore be submitted in time to admit of orders on them being passed before the close of the year. Excesses of expenditure which are ascertained too late to admit of that should be dealt with as prescribed in the Resolution of 31st January 1895.

4. Expending and controlling officers are reminded of the duty incumbent on them of scrutinising and reducing to the lowest amount, consistent with the proper administration of the public service, the expenditure which they incur or control. For the purposes of economy expenditure should be regulated from the beginning of the year, not only with a view of keeping within budget limits, but of effecting savings where practicable. Two independent conditions must be present in the incurring of expenditure:

The necessity for scrutinising and of economical control of expenditure.

- (a) that the expenditure must be within the limits of the originally sanctioned budget estimate, or of some *extra grant* sanctioned by competent authority, and
- (b) expenditure must have been sanctioned as expenditure, by superior authority, unless within the controlling powers of the expending officer.

Departure from these conditions may become necessary, but the officer concerned is responsible for such departure, and is bound to report his action at once for regularisation.

5. Officers are personally responsible when incurring expenditure in anticipation of sanction, where previous sanction is necessary.

Personal responsibility of expending officer.

6. Attention is drawn to the danger of over estimating expenditure and under estimating receipts, in the preparation of budget estimates. The result of the former means lapses of considerable sums which could have been made available for some other department of the Administration needing funds. In framing budgets for a future year, the actuals of the past year should form a more reliable basis than the sanctioned estimate of the current year.

7. Conservators, before framing revised and budget estimates, should ascertain direct from the officer in charge of the Survey of India party or from the Superintendent of Forest Surveys, as the case may be, the expenditure estimated to be incurred on forest surveys during the year concerned, and to base their estimates upon them, with any additions that may be necessary on account of surveys locally carried out by the Forest Department of the Province. Separate figures should be shown in the "explanatory note" for local surveys carried out by the Forest Department and regular forest surveys by the Survey of India Department and the Forest Survey Branch.

8. In applying for sanction of any expenditure, Divisional Officers should report the sum spent to date of application, and that available under the proper budget sub-head.

9. Sanction accorded for any particular work, or purchase of stores, does not authorise or justify any excess expenditure over the budget allotment of the sub-head concerned, without special sanction having been obtained.

10. These rules are copied verbatim from Chapter 23 of the Civil Account Code, Vol. I, except that references to the Forest Code have been corrected.

RECEIPTS.

440. All sums paid into treasury by a Forest-Officer or on his account should be credited to the Forest Department as "Forest Remittances."

441. All revenue received by Forest-Officers is to be paid into the treasury with as little delay as possible. Each remittance will be accompanied by the usual *chalan* form supplied by Treasury-Officers, in duplicate: one copy will form the voucher to the entry in the cash book, and the other will be retained by the Treasury-Officer (Forest Code, article 104).

442. A Treasury-Officer will receive forest revenue:—

- (1) when paid in by a Forest-Officer;
- (2) when the *chalan* is countersigned by a Forest-Officer;
- (3) when the Treasury-Officer is authorised to receive it.

In the case of (3) a copy of the *chalan* will be forwarded by the Treasury-Officer direct to the Divisional Forest-Officer, in order that the revenue may be brought to account in the books of the latter.

Each item of receipt should be shown separately in the schedule (Form 60 A) submitted by the Treasury-Officer to the Accountant-General; and when two or more Forest-Officers deal with a treasury, the receipts from each should be shown in separate columns.

443. If funds be wanted for immediate expenditure locally, sums locally received may be so expended; but in all cases the gross amount of revenue received must be promptly remitted to the treasury, which may be done in cash, or partly in cash and partly by cheque, or wholly by a cheque drawn against the letter of credit, the amount paid in cash and the amount remitted by cheque being shown separately in the *chalan* or remittance note (Forest Code, article 169).

444. A consolidated receipt for the forest remittances received and credited during the month should be furnished by the Treasury-Officer on the 1st of the ensuing month to each of the Divisional Forest-Officers dealing with his treasury.

PAYMENTS.

445. Funds are supplied to the Forest Department by means of quarterly letters of credit issued in Madras and Bombay by the Accountant-General, in Berar by the Comptroller, and elsewhere by the Comptroller-General; against these letters of credit the Forest-Officers named therein draw cheques. No charges on account of the Forest Department will be paid otherwise than on cheques so drawn. When civil officers are authorised to incur charges on account of the Forest Department, they will do so as forest disbursers, and apply for letters of credit through the Conservator of the Province. All letters of credit lapse at the close of the financial year.

(i) Letters of credit are issued to officers as holding a certain office, and transfers of divisional charges should be reported by the relieved officer to the Treasury Officers concerned (Forest Code, article 258).

(ii) Cheques drawn on or before the 31st March and presented for payment at the treasury on or before the 30th April, will be taken by the Treasury-Officer against the letter of credit of the official year in which the cheques were drawn. If presented for payment after the 30th April, their amount will be taken against the letter of credit of the year succeeding that in which they were drawn (Forest Code, article 192).

445A. A Conservator of Forests may, by a written order, empower any individual officer by name, who holds charge of a forest subdivision or range, to draw cheques against letters of credit issued in favour of his divisional officer to any extent that he may specify, supplying him with a cheque book bearing a different number from that in use by the divisional officer, and advising the Treasury-Officer thereof.

446. Funds may, if required, be obtained by Forest-Officers from the sub-treasuries or *tahsils* subordinate to the district treasuries on which they hold letters of credit by means of cheques, which should be distinguished by different numbers and letters from those drawn against the district treasury. The Forest-Officer will in such cases advise the District Treasury-Officer from time to time of the probable amount of his drawings, in order that funds may be duly provided, and will communicate to the Sub-Treasury-Officer, through the District Treasury-Officer, the number of the cheque book to be used (Forest Code, article 196).

CHEQUES.

447. An Officer who is allowed credit on a Civil Treasury is also supplied with numbered cheque books, and before bringing one into use will advise the Treasury-Officer of its number and of the serial numbers of the cheques it contains. No advice of the issue of any cheque need be sent to the treasury, no cheque will be issued for a sum less than Rs. 10, and none will hold good for more than three months from the date of issue; cheques presented at a later date, or not bearing the distinguishing numbers advised as in use, should be refused payment.

- (i) The provisions of article 485 apply, *mutatis mutandis*, in cases of loss of cheques drawn by Forest-Officers on Civil Treasuries.
- (ii) Officers who are furnished with letters of credit may make payments either in cash or by cheque. Cheques should be used as much as possible for large payments, and only for *bonâ fide* local demands against the Government and not for the transfer of funds from one division to another; such transfer of funds can only be made under orders from the Comptroller and Auditor General on application from Conservators. Those officers who have transactions with more than one district treasury will keep a separate cheque book for each. All cheques must be in the handwriting of the officer drawing them, and should have written across them in words, at right angles to the type, a sum a little in excess of that for which they are granted: thus "under thirty rupees" will mean that the cheque is for a sum not less than Rs. 20 but less than Rs. 30; and similarly, "under eight hundred rupees" will mean that it is for less than Rs. 800 but not less than Rs. 700 (Forest Code, article 194).
- (iii) Cheques will bear printed serial numbers in each book, and the Conservator will supply cheque books in such forms and under such rules as the Comptroller-General may from time to time direct. All cheque books must be kept under lock and key (Forest Code, article 195).
- (iv) Cheques drawn on sub-treasuries or tahsils will be written both in English and in the vernacular used in the courts of the province in which they are situated (Forest Code, article 196).

Each cheque paid will be entered in a separate schedule (Form 60 B) to be submitted by the Treasury-Officer to the Accountant-General.

FOREST OFFICERS ON LEAVE.

448. The leave allowances of a Forest-Officer on leave in India at a place where there is no disbursing Forest-Officer may be paid under the same rule as those of any other gazetted officer, no letter of credit being required. The bills, however, should be charged in the treasury account in the same way as forest cheques.

11. All forest revenue remitting officers are to be supplied with ordinary inland money-order forms in books with counterfoils. Remittances of revenue will be made through the nearest post-office, payable to the officer in charge of the Treasury, particulars being shown on the counterfoil and on the coupon such details as may be necessary for the Treasury-Officer's information. The Treasury-Officer will

Remittances to treasuries and
disbursers by money-orders.

forward to the Divisional Forest-Officer the advice list prescribed, together with the corresponding strips, consisting of coupons and acknowledgments of all money-orders received. The Divisional Forest-Officer, after checking the entries in the advice list, will return the acknowledgments which have been receipted by the Treasury-Officers under ordinary cover to the remitters, in support of their accounts. The usual post-office receipt will be retained by the remitter for record. Advances to disbursers may be made by post-office order, which may be remitted in cash or by a cheque drawn in favour of the postmaster, where the post-office is at a treasury or sub-treasury station. Tahsildárs and mauzadárs frequently retain in their possession for unduly long periods the forest revenue collected by them. Instructions to these officers should be issued, directing them to remit once a month to a treasury or sub-treasury all the forest revenue which they have collected. These remittances should ordinarily be made with the remittances of land revenue, but in the event of no land revenue being remitted during any month, the forest revenue should be forwarded by money-order, the cost of which will be borne by the Forest Department, in accordance with the "Rules for the remittance, by means of postal money-orders, of forest revenue to treasuries and of advances to disbursers in the Province of Assam."

12. Forest revenue, when not remitted by money-order, should be deposited by the collector personally, unless it is required to be utilised in the expenditure of the range, in which case the divisional officer's sanction must be obtained, so that a cheque for the amount may be remitted to the treasury. Accumulations in the hands of subordinates are not to be permitted, and remittances exceeding Rs. 50 when collected should be made daily, if a treasury, tahsil, or post-office is conveniently situated, and should in no case be kept over a week.

13. The cash chests of the Sylhet, Tura, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, and Silchar divisional forest offices should be kept in the treasury.

14. Under section 137 of the Forest Department Code the power to refund amounts not exceeding Rs. 200 (two hundred) in each case is delegated to the Conservator of Forests, where he may think it necessary to do so.

15. Forest subordinates are forbidden to grant receipts for revenue on plain paper, but must do so on the prescribed Form No. 13.

16. All charges against the Military Department are to be debited in the financial year of occurrence. Disbursing officers of all departments should settle all claims as incurred

and take measures for insuring payments so made being brought into the accounts at once.

17. Charge allowance cannot be drawn without the special sanction of the Chief Commissioner in the first instance.

Charge allowance.

The Government of India should be furnished on the 1st July of each year with names of Extra Assistant Conservators in charge of divisions whose merits are considered to entitle them to the additional allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem. It is desirable that only one such allowance should exist in a province at a time, so the annual recommendation, unless under exceptional circumstances, should be suspended till the allowance is again available.

18. Sanctions of expenditure accorded by the Chief Commissioner or the Conservator will be sent direct to the Comptroller and Auditor General, so it is not necessary for divisional officers to submit copies of the same.

Sanction of expenditure.

19. Expenditure on experiments is not permitted without the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, and, where such sanction is required, a detailed estimate of cost must be submitted.

Expenditure on experiments.

20. Officers to whom advances have been made, or to whom public money has been in any way entrusted, shall, as a general rule, be held *personally responsible* for such money if it happens to be lost or stolen while in their immediate custody, or from a police station in which it may have been placed by their order, unless they can clearly show that every reasonable precaution was taken by them for its safe custody.

Responsibility of officers for public money.

21. The creation of unauthorised funds by fines and deductions from pay or in any other way is strictly forbidden.

Unauthorised funds.

22. When a deduction in respect of life insurance premia paid in sterling is made, it should be the actual cost of the remittance as stated by the assessee. The deduction should be made in one sum from the salary bill to which the receipt is attached. No claim to exemption on account of premia paid shall be entertained, if it is preferred after the expiration of six months from the last day of the financial year during which the premium was paid.

Life insurance premia.

In the case of similar claims to exemption in regard to incomes taxable under Part IV, Schedule II of the Act, exemption will be granted only in respect of premia paid during the year upon the income on which the tax is assessed under section 15 of the Act.

23. Rewards for passing examinations are liable to income-tax. Scholarships, if granted to meet the cost of education, are exempt; otherwise they are liable. The tax should not be levied on sums paid as school prizes. Rewards granted for passing examinations should be treated as taxable under Part IV as income, and not as salary under Part I of the Schedule. The account officer auditing the payment of any such reward should inform the Collector of the fact of the payment in order that income-tax may be levied on it.

Rewards and Scholarships.

24. No alterations should be made in classification of revenue or expenditure after submission of divisional accounts, till orders are received from the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

Alterations in classification prohibited.

25. Revenue from timber the subject of litigation is not necessarily to be credited under head III, but in the usual way.

Revenue from timber under litigation.

26. The sanctioned scale of each kind of establishment should invariably appear in salary bills.

Establishment scale.

27. Amounts advanced to subordinates on transfer to the Forest School, Dehra Dun, should be cleared from the contractor's and disburser's ledger by debit to the Government of India, as a transfer to the Director of the Forest School, and a note should be made on the last pay certificate of the subordinate concerned, showing the amounts to be recovered from him.

Advances to Forest School students.

28. No entries as final expenditure are to be made in accounts of amounts not actually disbursed and accounted for.

Final expenditure.

29. These forms to be prepared on the Code model, but in Form No. 9, when "waste land timber sales" are shown, details with the quantity of timber represented should be given, based on the factors of cubic contents* adopted in general practice. In Form No. 10, the date of original permit or purchase should be shown in the "remarks" column. In Form No. 30, recoveries on account of outstandings should be separately entered for each individual payment.

Instructions for the preparation of Forms Nos. 9, 10, and 30.

30. Divisional officers are instructed to inspect and pass every range account, before such accounts are incorporated in the Divisional Form No. 30.

Inspection of range cash account.

31. Advances on being made to subordinates should have a numbered and dated voucher for signature sent with them for immediate return. In no case should a missing, required, or incorrect voucher, in support of an advance recoverable item in the cash book received from a subordinate, be returned in connection with, or

Vouchers for advances.

called for on, an objection statement issued from the office; it must be returned for correction with, or called for in, a separate letter.

32. To facilitate check of remittances and revenue collected during the month, the following information should be furnished at the foot of each cash account:

Revenue realised during August 18	...	...	Es. 6,000
Remittances to treasury of revenue collected during the month	...	...	Es. 2,000*
Adjusted by book transfer	...	...	500 2,500
Remittances to treasury of previous months—			
Unremitted revenue, June	...	...	100*
July	...	...	900*
Balance remaining unremitted on account of current month's revenue	...	...	3,500
Total amount of consolidated treasury receipt as per Form No. 31 of the month	...	...	3,000*

33. The following list shows in detail, under the different heads and sub-heads prescribed in the Forest Department Code, the appropriate classification of the various items of revenue and expenditure most commonly occurring in the accounts of the Forest Department:

Classification of items of revenue and expenditure in forest accounts under sub-heads.

List Showing Classification of Forest Accounts.

REVENUE.

R. I. a.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on timber of all kinds cut or collected in, or removed from, the forests by Government agency, or purchased by Government, and the expenses of cutting, collecting, removing, or purchasing which are charged to A. I. a.

(ii) *Special.*

Payments under contract agreements for lost, missing, or burnt logs, sleepers, or other timber (see R. V. a)

R. I. b.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on all firewood and charcoal cut or collected, or manufactured in, or removed from, the forests by Government agency, or purchased by Government and the expenses of cutting, collecting, removing or purchasing which are charged to A. I. b.

(ii) *Special.*

Payments under contract agreements for lost, missing, or burnt firewood and charcoal (see R. V. a).

R. I. c.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on all bamboos cut or collected, or removed from the forests by Government agency, or purchased by Government, and the expenses of cutting, collecting, removing, or purchasing which are charged to A. I. c.

(ii) *Special.*

Payments under contract agreements for lost, missing, or burnt bamboos (see R. V. a).

R. I. d.

All revenue from sandalwood.

R. I. e.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on all produce, other than timber, firewood, charcoal or bamboos, cut or collected in, or removed from, the forests by Government agency, or purchased by Government, and the expenses of cutting, collecting, removing, or purchasing which are charged to A. I. e.

(ii) *Special.*

Payments under contract agreements for lost, missing, or burnt grass and other minor produce (see R. V. a).

Sale-proceeds of silk cocoons. | Sale-proceeds of resin and products thereof.

Sale-proceeds of hay, etc., etc.

R. II. a.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on timber of all kinds removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers and the expenses of cutting, collecting, and removing which are defrayed by them. [Should any incidental expenses for marking or girdling, or temporary revenue collecting establishments be incurred by Government on such timber, they would be charged to A. II. (see that head).]

(ii) *Special.*

Payments for the value of timber standing on land applied for for cultivation.

R. II. b.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on firewood and charcoal removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers, and the expenses of cutting, collecting, and removing which are defrayed by them. [Should any incidental expenses for marking or girdling be incurred by Government on such firewood and charcoal, they would be charged to A. II. (see that head).]

(ii) *Special.*

Sale-proceeds of firewood and brushwood sold to contractors from the plains' *rahks*.

Sale-proceeds of firewood and brushwood sold standing on forest or waste land sold, granted, or leased for cultivation.

R. II. c.

Revenue on bamboos removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers, and the expenses of cutting, collecting, and removing which are defrayed by them. [Should any incidental expenses be incurred by Government on such bamboos, they would be charged to A. II. (see that head).]

R. II. d.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on grazing and fodder grass removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers, and the expenses of cutting, collecting, and removing which are defrayed by them. [Should any incidental expenses be incurred by Government on such grazing and fodder grass, they would be charged to A. II. (see that head).]

(ii) *Special.*

Sale-proceeds of grazing leases, and of grazing and grass-cutting permits.

Share of *tirni* revenue credited in district accounts.

R. II. e.

(i) *General.*

Revenue on all produce, other than timber, firewood, charcoal, bamboos, grazing and fodder grass, removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers, and the expenses of cutting, collecting, and removing which are defrayed by them. [Should any incidental expenses be incurred by Government on such produce, they would be charged to A. II. (see that head).]

(ii) *Special.*

Sale-proceeds of cardamom leases.

Sale-proceeds of skins, horns, and manure.

II. f. Forest stamps.

II. g. Other items.

II. h. Commutation fees.

R. III.

Revenue on all drift and waif timber and on confiscated timber and produce of all kinds, whether transferred to Government account or not.

R. IV. a.

Duty on foreign timber or other forest-produce.

R. IV. b.

(i) *General*.

Revenue from forests not managed by Government officers, but in which Government has a share or has certain other rights.

(ii) *Special*.

Seigniorage on trees felled in the *guzaras* of Hazara.

Share of revenue from the *jagir* forests of Kangra.

R. V. a.

Fines.—Realisations by fines inflicted under a Magistrate's order, when credited to forest revenue.

Forfeitures.—Of deposits for non-fulfilment of agreement.

By securities for non-fulfilment of agreement.

All payments for non-fulfilment of agreement, other than those mentioned under R. I. a, b, c, e.

R. V. b.

Refunds by the payees of sums previously disbursed by the department.

R. V. c.

(i) *General*.

All revenue which does not fall under any other head.

All sums accepted as compensation for offences compounded by Forest-Officers.

(ii) *Special*.

Rent of land under temporary cultivation.

Rent of wells, watercourses, water-mills, depôts, shops.

Rent of houses occupied by Forest-Officers.

Fees on registration of property marks.

Fees on rafting timber.

Fees on duplicate permits.

Pass and removal permit fees.

Sale-proceeds of fishing contracts or leases.

Sale-proceeds of licenses to catch hawks.

Sale-proceeds of hunting and shooting permits.

Sale-proceeds of condemned tents, furniture, and other stores; also of condemned live-stock, tools and plant.

Sale-proceeds of confiscated implements and other articles which are not "forest-produce" (see R. III).

Cost of delivering timber at railway stations when separately charged.

Price of stores lost and paid for by workmen, contractors, or establishment.

Sale of boiler ashes.

A.—CONSERVANCY AND WORKS.

A. I. a.

(i) *General.*

All charges for work connected with the cutting or collecting of timber in, and removal of timber from, the forests by Government agency.

(ii) *Special.*

Marking, felling, logging, sawing, measuring, moving, extracting by paths, slides or otherwise, launching, catching, landing, classifying, stacking, guarding, and preserving timber.

Blasting or otherwise clearing river-beds for the extraction of timber.

Commission to coolie-chowdries in connection with any such work.

Making and repair of boats used on timber works.

Construction and repair of temporary buildings in connection with timber works.

Construction and repair of temporary roads, slides, and tramways, for extracting timber.

Clearing and fencing timber depôts.

Advertisements and notices of timber sales.

Compensation on account of land temporarily taken up for timber works.

Compensation on account of damage done by timber works.

Thinning and cutting out of inferior species, where the operation is a profitable one and yields principally timber (see A. I. b and A. VIII. g).

Cutting out of burnt trees, where the operation is a profitable one and yields principally timber (see A. I. b and A. VIII. g).

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on timber works.

Expenses in connection with accidents to workmen and others.

Repairs of tools, stores, and plant used on timber works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on timber works, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. b).

Watching timber supposed to be stolen.

A. I. b.

(i) *General.*

All charges for work connected with the cutting or collecting of firewood, the manufacturing of charcoal, or the removal of firewood and charcoal, from the forests by Government agency.

(ii) *Special.*

As for A. I. a; but for fuel and charcoal, instead of for timber.

Weighment of fuel and charcoal, also cost of bags, baskets, etc., for the storage or transport of the same.

Thinning and cutting out of inferior species, where the operation is a profitable one and yields principally firewood and charcoal (see A. I. *a* and A. VIII. *g*).

Cutting out of burnt trees and shrubs, or brushwood, where the operation is a profitable one and yields principally firewood and charcoal (see A. I. *a* and A. VIII. *g*).

A. I. *c*.

(i) *General*.

All charges for work connected with the cutting, or collecting, or the removal of bamboos from the forests by Government agency.

(ii) *Special*.

As for A. I. *a* ; but for bamboos, instead of for timber.

A. I. *d*.

All charges for sandalwood.

A. I. *e*.

(i) *General*.

All charges for work connected with the collection in, or removal from, the forests by Government agency of grass and of produce other than timber, firewood charcoal, and bamboos.

(ii) *Special*.

As for A. I. *a* ; but for grass and minor produce, instead of for timber.

Collection of myrabolams.

Collection of stags' horns.

Weighment of minor produce.

Rearing of lac.

Rearing of silk worms and sale of cocoons.

Extraction of resin and preparation of products therefrom.

Watching produce supposed to be stolen.

A. II.

(i) *General*.

All incidental charges in connection with the removal of produce of all kinds from the forests by consumers or purchasers, other than such as is cut or collected by Government agency.

All charges incurred in connection with produce given free or under privileges or to right-holders.

(ii) *Special.*

Marking trees or other produce for removal.

Marking out areas from which produce may be removed.

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed to supervise removals, issue permits, or to guard grass preserves; as well as incidental charges connected with the formation of the preserves.

Erection and repair of temporary huts for such establishment.

Construction and repair of temporary roads, bridges, or other works, when used solely or mainly for the removal of produce by purchasers.

Grazing lease of canal bank at Chānga Mangā.

Commission paid for collecting revenue classified under R. II.

Payment of fees to lambardars and others for collecting grazing dues.

Payment of tahsil establishments entertained for keeping account of grazing dues collected.

Cost of lamp-oil at revenue *chaukis*.

Payments for assistance in seizing and impounding cattle.

A. III.

DRIFT AND WAIF TIMBER.

(i) *General.*

Charges in connection with drift and waif timber, including amounts paid for salving, collecting, moving, storing and disposing of such timber.

(ii) *Special.*

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on drift timber works.

Repairs of tools, stores and plant used on such works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on such works, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. VI. c).

Watching produce supposed to be stolen.

CONFISCATED FOREST-PRODUCE.

(i) *General.*

Charges in connection with confiscated forest produce of all kinds, except carriage.

(ii) *Special.*

Carriage of confiscated produce.

A. IV. a.

(i) *General.*

Payment to Maharaja of Sirmur for share of Jumna river dues.

(ii) *Special.*

Pay of temporary establishments engaged in the protection or collecting of foreign timber.

A. IV. *b.*(i) *General.*

Charges relating to Revenue sub-head IV. (*b*), in connection with revenue derived from forests not managed by Government officers, but in which Government has a share or has certain other rights.

(ii) *Special.*

Expenses, if any, in connection with the realisation of seigniorage on trees felled in the *guzaras* of Hazara, or of share of revenue from the *jaqir* forests of Kangra.

A. V.

(i) *General.*

Rent of leased forests and payments to shareholders in forests managed by Government.

(ii) *Special.*

Payments for Chamba and Bashahr leased forests and Banda shared forests.

Seigniorage on trees felled in Government forests in Hazara.

Share of revenue of certain *belas* on the Chenab, payable to Diwan Thakur Das.

Payments, under settlement orders, of share of gross income from the Kangra forests.

A. VI. *a.*(i) *General.*

Purchase of elephants; also buffaloes and bullocks.

(ii) *Special.*

Purchase of mules and well-cattle.

A. VI. *b.*(i) *General.*

Feed and keep of elephants, buffaloes, and bullocks.

(ii) *Special.*

Feed and keep of mules and well-cattle.

Medicines and veterinary charges.

Pay of temporary establishment in charge of live stock.

Rent of ground for stabling elephants.

Ferry-hire for elephants and elephant gear.

A. VI. c.

(i) *General.*

Purchase (but not repair) of tools, stores and plant of all kinds and for whatever purpose obtained. [Charges for carriage on first receipt, or on transfer from one division to another, to be debited to A. IX. b; other charges for carriage to be debited to works see instructions under other heads.]

Purchase of petty stores, such as paint, ironmongery, etc., should be charged to the work concerned.

(ii) *Special.*

Carts, mining tools, crowbars, spades, pickaxes, *phowrahs*, saws, files, saw-sets, badges, axes, hammers, marking-hammers, and other marking implements.

Surveying and mathematical instruments; measures.

Elephant gear.

Arms and accoutrements.

Tents and apparatus belonging thereto, such as ropes and *salcetas*.

Furniture for rest houses.

Office furniture, including tables, chairs, almirahs, boxes, carpets, locks, keys, weighing-machines.

A. VII. a.

(i) *General.*

Construction and repair of permanent and semi-permanent roads, paths, bridges, tramways, and timber slides, *i.e.*, of such as are not classed as "temporary" and charged to works (see A. I., A. II., and A. VIII. c).

(ii) *Special.*

Cutting and clearing of interior lines where they are used mainly as roads or paths (see A. VII. c, A. VIII. f, A. VIII. g).

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on these works.

Repair of tools, stores, and plant used on these works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on these works, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. b).

Purchase of, or compensation for, land taken up for permanent or semi-permanent roads or paths

A. VII. b.

(i) *General.*

Construction and repair of permanent and semi-permanent buildings; *i.e.*, of such as are not classed as "temporary" and charged to works (see A. I., A. II., and VII. c).

(ii) *Special.*

Purchase of, or compensation for, building sites.

Purchase and carriage of materials.

Pay and travelling allowance of establishment employed on these works.

Repair of tools, stores, and plant used on these works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on these works, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. *b*).

A. VII. *c*.

(i) *General*.

Works other than those to be charged to A. VII. *a* or A. VII. *b*.

Clearing snow from buildings.

Closing and securing unoccupied buildings.

(ii) *Special*.

Construction and repair of wells, tanks, and bunds or *anicuts*.

Laying out and keeping in order office or rest-house compounds and camping grounds,

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on these works.

Repair of tools, stores, and plant used on these works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on these works, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. *b*).

Purchase or rent of, or compensation for, land taken up for wells, tanks, and camping-grounds.

A. VIII. *a*.

(i) *General*.

All charges connected with the demarcation of forest boundaries and the erection and repairs of boundary marks; also the maintenance of *outer* boundaries, except where they are specially cleared for fire-protection.

(ii) *Special*.

Digging trenches, erecting fences, cutting and clearing lines, erecting and numbering pillars, when done on an *outer* boundary.

Laying down and checking *outer* boundaries, when not done as part of a survey.

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on these works.

Repair of tools, stores, and plant used on these works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on these works, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. *b*).

A. VIII. *b*.

Compensation for expropriation of land and commutation of rights paid under the Forest Act, or otherwise than as provided under A. I. and A. VII.

Cost of settlement operations.

A. VIII. *c*.

(i) *General*.

Surveys.—All charges connected with surveys and maps, whether originally constructed or copied, but not *purchased* (see B. III. *f*).

A. VIII. d.

Working Plans.—All charges connected with Working Plans.

(ii) *Special.*

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on Working Plans.

Laying out and clearing of compartment lines for Working Plans.

Repair of tools, stores, and plant used on these works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on these works, other than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. b).

All contingent charges incurred in connection with regularly constituted Working Plans parties.

A. VIII. e.

(i) *General.*

All charges in connection with nurseries, plantations, and cultural operations, but not including the cost of fire-protection or of any operation after the plantation has reached the pole stage.

(ii) *Special.*

Laying out and preparing nurseries, manuring, sowing, watering, weeding, tending, fencing, construction and repair of temporary roads, paths, and bridges, construction and repair of temporary buildings, clearing nurseries or plantations, rooting up *kana* grass.

Digging holes and patches, transplanting seedlings, shading seedlings, counting seedlings, import or export of seedlings, freeing suppressed seedlings, purchase of seedlings.

Collection of seed, purchase of seed, drying, preparing, storing and preserving of seed, seed-bags, import or export of seed.

Purchase or making of perishable articles, such as baskets, pots, and *mashaks*.

Making (not purchase) of *kurpas* or other tools.

Cutting back of injured plants in nurseries or plantations.

Wounding the soil to promote natural reproduction.

Clearing and cutting of lines, when done in connection with nurseries, plantations or cultural operations (see A. VII. a, A. VIII. f, A. VIII. g).

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on nurseries, plantations, and cultural operations.

Repair of tools, stores, and plant used on these works.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used on these works, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. b).

A. VIII. *f*.(i) *General*.

Cost of all measures for protecting forests, including nurseries and plantations, from fire.

(ii) *Special*.

Cutting and clearing of lines made and maintained solely or principally for purposes of protection from fire (see A. VII. *b*, A. VII. *a*, A. VII. *c*, A. VIII. *g*).

Sweeping up of dead leaves.

Laying out and keeping in order travellers' camping-grounds in fire-protected forests.

Extinguishing fires, including rewards to villagers.

Measuring up burnt areas.

Pay and travelling allowance of temporary establishment employed on fire-protection, also pay of watchers employed as daily labourers.

Repair of tools, stores, and plant used in fire-protection.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant used in fire-protection, otherwise than on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another (see A. IX. *b*).

A. VIII. *g*.(i) *General*.

Works connected with demarcation, improvement, and extension of forests other than those ordered to be charged to A. VIII. *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e*, *f*.

(ii) *Special*.

Fencing, except in connection with nurseries, plantations, or cultural operations (see A. VIII. *e*).

Cutting and clearing of interior lines where not required solely or principally as roads or paths (A. VII. *a*), or for plantations (A. VIII. *e*), or for fire-protection (A. VIII. *f*).

Cutting creepers.

Pruning.

Clearing or collecting debris after fellings.

Thinning and cutting out of inferior species where the operation is not a profitable one (see A. I. *a*, A. I. *b*).

Cutting back of burnt trees, poles, saplings, or coppice, where the operation is not a profitable one (see A. I. *a*, A. I. *b*).

Destruction of injurious animals.

A. IX. *a*.(i) *General*.

All charges connected with legal business.

(ii) *Special.*

Pleders' fees.

Copying judgments.

Witnesses' expenses.

Stamps.

Printing charge-sheets.

All other costs connected with the institution or defence of cases in Court.

A. IX. *b.*(i) *General.*

All expenditure under "A Conservancy and Works" not chargeable under other heads or sub-heads.

(ii) *Special.*

Repair of tools, stores, and plant when not otherwise chargeable.

Repair of rest-house furniture.

Carriage of tools, stores, and plant on first receipt or on transfer from one division to another.

Cost of clothing (when allowed) for establishment.

Grain and winter allowances.

Collection, preparation, carriage of museum and herbarium specimens, and of produce for Exhibitions.

Rewards to establishment or other persons when duly authorized, except in connection with fires (A. VIII. *f*).

Charges in connection with chemical analyses and experiments.

Charges in connection with meteorological observations.

NOTE.—Refunds of revenue are now debitable to "I.—Refunds and drawbacks."

B.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

B. I. *a.*

Salary (including acting allowances) of Conservator.

B. I. *b.*

Salaries (including acting allowances) of superior officers, *i.e.*, of Deputy and Assistant Conservators, Extra Deputy and Extra Assistant Conservators.

B. I. *c.*

Salaries (including acting allowances) of permanent and temporary Forest and Depot Establishments, *i.e.*, of Rangers, Deputy Rangers, Foresters, Guards.

B. I. *d.*

Salaries (including acting allowances) of permanent and temporary Office Establishment, *i.e.*, of Clerks, Munshis, Peons, dâk runners.

B. I. *e.*(i) *General.*

Deputation and special allowances to officers of *all classes*.

(ii) *Special.*

Allowances for holding charge of two divisions.

Local allowances.

Pay of Hospital Assistants.

(ii) *Special*—contd.

Allowances to Civil Surgeons or others.

Special allowance, as that of Assistant Superintendent of Hill States.

B. I. *f*.

Exchange compensation allowances.

B. II. *a*.

Travelling allowances of Conservator.

B. II. *b*.

Travelling allowances of superior officers, *i.e.*, of Deputy and Assistant Conservators, Extra Deputy and Extra Assistant Conservators.

B. II. *c*.

Travelling allowances of permanent and temporary Forest and Depôt Establishments, *i.e.*, of Rangers, Deputy Rangers, Foresters and Guards.

B. II. *d*.

Travelling allowances of permanent and temporary Office Establishments, *i.e.*, of Clerks, Munshis, Peons, etc.

B. III. *a*.(i) *General*.

Charges for stationery of kinds not supplied by the Superintendent of Stationery, for whatever work the stationery may be required.

(ii) *Special*.

Pens, ink, and pencils for vernacular
offices and *chaukis*.

Country paper, tape, etc.

Gum.

Thread.

Carriage of stationery for all purposes.

Bound books of country paper

Note books.

B. III. *b*.(i) *General*.

Carriage of Government tents and records.

(ii) *Special*.

Half-cost of carriage of Government tents other than those occupied by chaprassis and police guards.

Entire cost of carriage of tents occupied by chaprassis and police-guards.

Cost of carriage of office tent-furniture, such as tables and chairs.

Carriage of boxes containing office books and papers.

Pay of tent-pitchers on temporary establishment.

Carriage of dāk.

B. III. *c*.(i) *General*.

Rents, rates, and taxes on account of office or other buildings used for Government purposes.

(ii) *Special.*

Rent of offices, godowns, and depôts, when not hired temporarily and charged to works.

B. III. *d.*

Pay of police-guards.

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Pay of special treasury-guards.

B. III. *e.*

Official postage, including registration and insurance of letters and parcels, and payments on "bearing" letters and parcels. [But not carriage of parcels conveyed otherwise than by post (see B. III. *f.*).]

B. III. *f.*(i) *General.*

All expenditure under "B. Establishments" not chargeable under other heads or sub-heads.

(ii) *Special.*

Repair of tents and apparatus belonging thereto, and of camp office furniture.

Repair of office furniture.

Repair of stores, tools, and plant for office use.

Carriage of parcels otherwise than by post and when not chargeable to other heads.

Fuel for office use.

Lighting office.

Printed forms.

Permit books and forms for the removal of produce by consumers or purchasers.

Medicines.

Commission on money-orders.

Sweeping office.

Dusters for office use.

Making and pulling punkhas.

Purchasing and watering *tattis*.

Tin map-cases.

Carriage of furniture to rest-houses.

Carriage of money from or to treasuries.

State telegrams.

Repairs of arms and accoutrements.

Rubber-stamps.

Seals.

Purchase of mats and chicks for office and rest-houses.

Purchase of railway time-tables, postal guide, etc.

Trestles for storing tents.

Uniform for office chaprassis.

Binding and preserving books and office records.

Mounting maps.

Bastas for vernacular records.

Purchase and carriage of books and maps.

34. Commission at the rate of 10 per cent. is payable to the laskars and sirdars of the Gáro Hills and others on collections on account of *gurkati*.

Gurkati commission.

35. All fines and confiscations imposed and realised by the Courts of Justice shall be recorded in the Finance and Revenue Accounts under the head of *Law and Justice*.

Certain fines to be credited to Law and Justice.

Fines and confiscations imposed for the breach of any fiscal law which are realised by the Revenue Officers should be recorded in the Finance and Revenue Accounts under the head of revenue concerned.

36. The department to which the sale-proceeds of elephant tusks should be credited will depend on the circumstances under which they become the property of Government.

Elephant tusks.

The sale-proceeds of elephant tusks should be credited—

- (i) if found in a Government reserve to "Forests";
- (ii) if found elsewhere, to "Land Revenue, Miscellaneous";
- (iii) if they are confiscated by a Court of Justice, to "Law and Justice".

37. Revenue should be realised from stone ballast collected in unclassified State forests, as a general rule, but where stone-quarries are found of sufficient size, importance and value to warrant their being leased out annually or for a term of years to contractors or other persons, as is done in the case of the limestone quarries in the Khási and Jaintia Hills, such leases should be issued by the Revenue Department, and not by the Forest Department.

Stone ballast.

38. All sums realised as grazing dues from unclassified State forests, although such dues may have been collected through the agency of the revenue establishments, shall be credited to "Forest."

Grazing dues.

39. Receipts from fisheries in reserved forests stand on exactly the same footing as receipts from raiyyats holding land there, and as the grazing fees paid on buffaloes in unclassified State forests. The two latter are credited to Forests, and the former should be so credited.

Fisheries.

40. The Conservator has been authorised to calculate the royalty due on second class timber converted into tea boxes by the Planters' Stores and Agency Company according to the number and class of tea-boxes turned out instead of by cubic feet of timber, and to enter into this particular class of arrangement without reference to Government.

Tea boxes.

41. It is not desirable to impose royalty for silk worms feeding on trees in unclassified State forests.

Silkworms.

The Schedule in the Unclassified State Forest rules refers only to rates of royalty charged on timber or other forest-produce removed from an unclassified forest or from land at the disposal of Government, and the feeding of worms, or indeed of any animals, on forest-produce cannot in the Chief Commissioner's opinion fairly be brought within the scope of the Schedule. The Rule regarding grazing dues is based on section 34 (I) (e) of the Regulation and refers to cattle only, but no provision appears to have been made in the Regulation for levying a royalty or other payment on worms feeding on forest-produce.

42. No services previously rendered to other Departments made over to the control of the Local Governments may be diminished, and no services previously rendered to these Departments at the charge of other Departments may be increased.

Services rendered by and to other Departments.

SECTION II.—Buildings.

1. Officers in charge of public buildings must frequently inspect them and see that they are kept clean; that all doors, wood-work, and windows are washed periodically; the whitewashing and petty repairs are promptly executed; and that the furniture is kept clean and in good order.

Buildings to be kept clean.

2. The attention of all officers is drawn to the great risk from fire which attaches to all thatched buildings in Assam. All such buildings should be supplied with a stock of earthen vessels, which should always be kept filled with water. At some central place in each *sadr* and subdivisional station, a reserve of twenty iron buckets should be maintained, for use when fire breaks out.

Precautions against fire.

It is the duty of civil officers (in the case of buildings occupied by them) to indent, when necessary, on the Public Works Department for the requisite number of buckets, *gharas*, platforms, and ladders, and to see that they are kept in some readily-accessible place, the buckets and *gharas* being always filled with water. These articles will be supplied by the Public Works Department in the case of buildings the maintenance of which is under that department; in the case of other buildings, they should be purchased by the department or office concerned and charged against the budget grant for the upkeep of such buildings.

It should be clearly understood that the officer responsible for keeping up the requisite number of *gharas*, etc., and seeing that they are kept in an accessible position and in a condition fit for use at any moment is the officer in *occupation* of the building concerned, such, for instance, as subdivisional officers or *munsifs*, etc., or in the case of the Public Works or other departments, the departmental officer who actually occupies the building. These orders should in future be strictly adhered to by all officers concerned, and any disregard of them will be seriously noticed.

The person responsible for precautions against fire in thatched building is :

- (i) the occupant, when rented to a private person;

- (ii) the chaplain, in the case of churches and cemeteries ; and
- (iii) the servants, and the Deputy Commissioner or other officer under whose orders they are, for dāk-bungalows and rest-houses.

3. The Conservator's powers and those of divisional officers in regard to limits of expenditure for the construction of new or the alteration of existing buildings are ruled by sections 153, 155, and 156 to 161 of the Forest Department Code.

4. Rules that regulate the grant of house-building advances to officers in the civil department will be found in article 136 of the Civil Account Code (5th edition). Such advances will not be given to officers on probation, nor may they be utilized for other than building purposes, not even in the purchase of a site.

5. (a) Applications for an advance for building purposes should in all cases be accompanied with a report from the departmental superior of the applicant, which should state clearly—

- (i) whether, in his opinion, the assistance solicited is necessary ;
- (ii) whether any previous advance has been made to the applicant and, if so, when, and whether such advance has been fully liquidated or not ;
- (iii) whether the applicant holds a permanent post under Government or is merely on probation ; and
- (iv) whether the advance, if sanctioned, should be made in one or more instalments.

(b) The report of the departmental superior should certify—

- (i) that either no houses are available locally, or that house-rent is exceptionally high ; and
- (ii) that he has satisfied himself regarding the title of the applicant to the land upon which he proposes to build.

(c) The following certificates, signed by the applicant, should accompany every application :

- (i) That the advance is required for the purpose of building suitable houses for his own personal residence, and that it will, under no circumstances, be expended for any purpose other than that of *building houses*.
- (ii) That, should there be any surplus after the house is completed, it will be at once refunded to Government.

SECTION III.—Civil and Criminal Cases and Powers.

1. With a view to prevent the possibility of section 60 of the Assam Forest

Bail in forest cases.
 *Any Forest Officer or Police Officer may without orders from a Magistrate and without a warrant, arrest any person reasonably suspected of having been concerned in any forest offence punishable with imprisonment for one month or upwards, if such person refuses to give his name and residence, or gives a name or residence which there is reason to believe to be false, or if there is reason to believe that he will abscond.

Every officer making an arrest under this section shall without unnecessary delay take or send the persons arrested before a Magistrate having jurisdiction in the case or to the officer in charge of the nearest police station.

Regulation of 1891, clauses 1 and 2* (reproduced on the margin) being worked in an unnecessarily oppressive manner, the Chief Commissioner has directed that, if an arrest be made under this section, and the Magistrate's Court is at a distance from the scene of the alleged offence, and a police station is within convenient access, an accused person who is ready and willing to give bail should be taken for the purpose to the police station, the officer in charge of which will thereupon take action in the matter in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, Chapter XXXIX.

2. For the rules under which civil suits in which Government is concerned should be conducted, see the manual of Executive Rules, section IV, Chapter II.

Civil suits.

3. When a Government servant is summoned to give evidence in a

Government servant summoned to give evidence.

civil court, he must obey such summons, if with it is tendered a sufficient sum of money to pay his travelling and other expenses. If in addition to this, the witness's salary for the period he may be required to be absent from duty is not paid in, an application can be made, under section 162 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to the Court before which he appears for an order directing the payment to him of the amount of his salary for the period in question. Non-payment of his salary in the first instance must not, however, be considered as a ground for refusing to obey the summons, regard being had to the explanation at the end of section 174 of the Code.

4. Forest officers invested with powers under section 68 (d) of the Assam

Power to compel attendance.

Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, have the power to compel the attendance of the offender and witnesses, when holding an enquiry into a forest offence, and to receive and record evidence; evidence so recorded, if taken in the presence of the accused and recorded in the manner provided by section 355, 356 or 357 of the Civil Procedure Code, is admissible in any subsequent trial before a Magistrate of the alleged offender.

5. A number of persons committing a forest offence in company, should only be shown as *one* case, the number and names of persons being recorded separately in the forest offence register.

6. Pleaders are not to be employed to conduct forest cases without the Conservator's sanction; by section 152 of the Forest Department Code, such expenditure is limited to Rs. 100 in each case, any excess requiring the sanction of the Local Administration. In the Assam Valley, the Commissioner, and elsewhere, the Deputy Commissioner, is authorised to sanction the employment of a pleader in exceptional cases in Magistrates' Courts, and in appeals before Session judges, and the Audit office will pass the charges at rates quoted in rules 2 and 3 of Section II, Chapter II of the Manual of Executive Rules on a bill signed by the Deputy Commissioner. When the sanction of the Commissioner is required, the number and date of the letter conveying the sanction should be quoted.

7. The procedure to be adopted in regard to the prosecution of criminal charges before any Court is as follows:—

Prosecutions in which Government is concerned.

Where the charge is of a cognisable offence, the prosecution will be conducted by the Police. Where the charge is of an offence which is non-cognisable, the officer who prefers the complaint should refer for instructions to the Magistrate of the district, who may, if he thinks fit, either instruct the officer himself to prosecute, or, if the case is of a complicated and difficult nature, rendering, in his opinion, the employment of the Government Pleader or of some legal practitioner necessary for a proper prosecution, direct the Government Pleader to prosecute, or authorise the employment of a legal practitioner.

8. It is forbidden to export rubber from the Assam Province, except with permission granted in the pass form specified below.

Rewards for detection of smuggled rubber.

Any person found exporting rubber from Assam, not covered by the prescribed pass, will be prosecuted, and will render himself liable, on conviction before a Magistrate, to a fine of Rs. 500, or to imprisonment which may extend to six months, or to both, and to the confiscation of the rubber and of all tools or conveyances employed in its export.

Any information leading to the arrest and confiscation of smuggled rubber not covered by the prescribed pass may be rewarded by the convicting Magistrate with a sum of money which shall not exceed the value of the confiscated produce.

Such information should be lodged at any forest or police post.

Prescribed Form of India-rubber Pass.

(Granted under Rule 3 of Notification No. 5738-R. of 1st November 1892.)

Number of book and pass

Name of owner.

Residence.

Quantity of India-rubber. Mds. S. C.

Number and description of packages.

Duty paid, Rs.

Port of shipment.

Name of steamer or boatman.

Date

Signature of Forest Officer.

9. The Conservator has the power of granting special rewards in cases

Special rewards by Conservator.

when no compensation has been recovered from the offender for any forest offence.

10. A Register in the following form will be kept up in all Forest

Register for forest offences compounded.

offices for forest offences compounded under section 62 of the Assam Forest Regulation :

(a) Serial No. for current year.

(b) Date.

(c) Name, parentage, and residence of offender.

(d) Offence : section of Forest Act infringed being given, also sufficient details to show the extent of offence or culpability.

(e) Amount of compensation.

(f) Date of payment.

11. Criminal offences committed by Forest subordinates should be

Criminal offences committed by Forest subordinates.

reported to the Conservator before prosecutions are instituted in a court of law.

12. The Chief Commissioner directs that whenever a conviction is obtained

Appeals against convictions in Magistrates' Courts in cases in which Government Departments are interested.

in a Magistrate's Court upon a prosecution instituted by any department of the Public Service, and an

appeal is filed against the conviction, the earliest possible intimation of the filing of the appeal should be given by the Deputy Commissioner to the officer of the department responsible for the prosecution, so that he may, if necessary, make arrangements to be represented in the Appellate Court at the hearing of the appeal.

SECTION IV.—Concessions and Free Grants.

1. The maximum limit of the period for which temporary privileges

Limit of temporary privileges.

may be granted in reserved forests is fixed at ten years. Forest-Officers should obtain notice of

the dates of Forest-Settlement-Officers' inquiries into rights and privileges

in areas proposed as reserves, and bring to the Conservator's notice facts which might prove detrimental to forest conservancy, or matters which may not be sufficiently understood by the Settlement Officer.

2. In disposing of proposals for free grants of timber for works of public utility, each case must be dealt with on its merits.

Timber concessions.

As large timber requires a long time for its production it should not be readily surrendered on any large scale, and concessions in this direction should not be unnecessarily liberal or proposed without sufficient consideration, and the money value of the concessions should be quoted in making any such proposal. The Forest Department is a *quasi*-commercial one, and unless concessions indirectly benefit it, no grant is ordinarily admissible even when work for which the concession is required is to be constructed by Government. On the other hand, the Department should not take advantage of the increased value of its produce due to the construction of works of utility like tramways, railways, &c., which develop the country, to exact the highest rates obtainable, but should make concessions accepting as value a mean between the original value of the produce and that obtaining owing to the development of communications.

Section 107 of the Forest Department Code lays down values not to be exceeded, except with the sanction of the Government of India.

3. The Conservator has been authorised, under section 107 of the Forest Department Code, to sanction free grants of trees up to the value of Rs. 1,000.

Conservator's powers, as to free grants.

4. Raiyyats refusing to take out home-consumption permits, found in possession of forest-produce from unclassed State forest or waste lands, must pay the ordinary rates of royalty for the same.

Penalty for raiyyats not taking out home-consumption permits.

5. Form No. 11 entries should distinguish clearly between produce removed from the forests by right-holders under settlement orders, and that removed by privileged persons.

Right-holders' and settlement-holders' free grants.

6. Home consumption permit details should contain the definite quantity of produce required, and not necessarily the limit allowed, whilst removal of unnecessarily large quantities should not be permitted.

Quantities of free grants to be entered on permits.

7. (a) As a special case, the grant of *khaira* trees in unclassed State forests to the raiyyats of Cachari mauzas in Mangaldai sub division is authorised on home-consumption permits on payment of the nominal royalty of 4 annas per tree.

Concessions granted in Mangaldai subdivision.

(b) The Subdivisional Officer of North Lakhimpur may exercise his discretion, and permit the felling of *uriam* trees free of royalty in localities where land for *jhuming* is comparatively scarce, and where real hardship is being caused by people having to choose inferior land on account of the better soil having *uriam* trees on it; but this discretion should be exercised by him on the distinct understanding that, whenever the people wish to remove the timber, or any portion of it, for sale, they must pay the full royalty on each tree, as otherwise the concession would rapidly degenerate into the regular felling of the *uriam* trees for the purpose of trade.

(c) Royalty should not be levied on bamboos cut down by the *dao-tax* payers in Sylhet in course of cultivation, in addition to the *dao-tax* levied on them. Home consumption permits will be issued to raiyats of Jaintia free of charge.

(d) Connected with the boat traffic on the Diyang river in North Cachar—

- (i) no royalty should be charged on account of bamboos used to float down boats;
- (ii) in the case of cars, royalty should be charged, except that two for each boat should be allowed to go free;
- (iii) for poles and saplings only 1 anna should be charged.

The officer in charge of the Diyangmukh Forest Revenue Station is authorised to pass bamboos free of royalty at the rate of one hundred to every fifty maunds of cotton and to charge royalty on all bamboos in excess of that rate.

(e) The Subdivisional Officer of Jorhát has been given discretion to allow each village in the Majuli such number of boats as they require for agricultural purposes, made of unreserved trees, gratis. The concession should be granted only to those villages whose inhabitants have streams to cross between their houses and their fields. These free boats must not be used for trade, carrying firewood, etc.

A mark should be devised and cut on such boats to show that they are free, and are only to be used for the purpose indicated above.

The Subdivisional Officer of Golághát has been granted powers similar to those given to the Subdivisional Officer of Jorhát, in regard to the free

grant of unreserved trees for boats to the raiyyats of mauza Ahotoguri. The concession is to be restricted by the same condition as prescribed in the case of the Majuli grant.

The Deputy Commissioner of Sibságar has been given the power of granting free of charge to each homestead in the Pani-Dihing, Kumar-Kharadhara, Bannuk, and Kawapur mauzas one *simul* tree, to be utilised as a boat for agricultural purposes. The concession to be subject to the restrictions and conditions prescribed in connection with the free grant made to the raiyyats of the Majuli.

(f) The cutting of thatching-class, *ekra*, and *nal* (or *khagra*) upon Government land not included in reserved forests in the Assam Valley is not subject to any tax or restriction, whether the articles are required for domestic use or for sale, provided that they are not exported past Dhubri and Fakirganj.

8. As a special case, the grant of licenses free of charge to the raiyyats of Barpathar for the purpose of shooting in the neighbouring Government reserved forests is authorised.

9. The granting of a concession is a very different thing from the admission of a right, and the permission which is sometimes granted to raiyyats to continue to collect firewood or graze cattle in, or to use a path through, a forest after reservation, in cases where they are shown to have special claims to consideration, is granted as a matter of grace, and not of legal obligation. Should any "rights" be found to exist by a Forest Settlement Officer in the case of future proposals to constitute forest reserves, the special attention of the Chief Commissioner should be drawn to the finding. For the present, it is sufficient to say that no private or public rights in land, or the produce thereof, are recognised by Government as existing in Assam other than those specially declared to exist by section 6 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation of 1886; nor is there any reasonable probability of such rights ever being claimed. Even assuming the bare possibility of any person hereafter claiming some sort of right in land, or in the produce of land, "at the disposal of Government," the view that such a possibility, which, no doubt, is entirely removed in the case of a reserved forest, reduces the actual *status* of Government in such land below that which it holds in reserved forests, is one which the Chief Commissioner cannot accept; this explains why he has thought it necessary to give a legal basis to the action of the Forest Department in levying special rates of royalty in reserved forests.

SECTION V.—Contracts.

1. In order to prevent contractors, who supply District Engineers with timber, from felling trees without paying royalty to the Forest Department or from charging Public Works an unfair additional rate for timber, on the plea of having to pay such royalty for the trees to be worked up, the following rules for the guidance of all officers concerned are issued :

Contractors to pay royalty through the Public Works Department.

(i) Contractors engaged in supplying timber to District Engineers are not to pay royalty to the Forest Department.

(ii) The District Engineer will apply to the Forest Officer, in the case of each contract he enters into for the supply of timber, to mark off for the contractor the number of trees required, and the royalty for these trees will be adjusted by the District Engineer crediting the Forest Department with the amount by transfer account.

(iii) The contractor will have no ground for charging an extra rate to cover royalty, and to avoid the risk of unfair dealing the Forest Officer will, if asked to do so, supply to the District Engineer a memorandum showing the dimensions of the trees marked, from which the District Engineer can calculate with fair accuracy whether the trees taken by the contractor are in excess of his requirements or not.

(iv) The contractor does not acquire any proprietary right in the timber made over to him by the Forest Department, and the taking away for private use or sale of any timber by the contractor or his employés is an offence punishable under the Penal Code. If the District Engineer considers it necessary, he can have the timber measured up and marked at site.

(v) Outside slabs, rejected pieces, or other remnants, remaining after the timber has been worked up, may be disposed of by the District Engineer to the best advantage, either by direct sale to contractor or by special clause in the agreement, declaring them to be the contractor's property as a set-off against a lower rate for the timber to be supplied.

2. The Conservator of Forests, all gazetted officers of the Forest Department who have qualified for the charge of a forest division, and district officers when in charge of forest divisions, are authorised to execute contracts and other instruments in matters connected with the administration and working of forests and with

Power to execute contracts.

the business of the Forest Department generally, subject to the following limitations :

(i) No contract or instrument involving an expenditure of more than Rs. 500 shall be executed by divisional officers and other district officers without the previous sanction of the Conservator of Forests.

(ii) No contract or instrument which involves an expenditure of more than Rs. 5,000, or which relates to works extending over a series of years, shall be executed without the previous sanction of the Local Administration.

(iii) No officers of the Forest Department shall execute any deed for the purchase or sale of land or of any interest in land.

3. Under section 203 of the Forest Department Code, the Conservator fixes the limit of an advance that may be made to a contractor by a divisional officer, without his previous sanction, at Rs. 300.

Advances to contractors.

SECTION VI.—Elephants.

1. Officers who have Government elephants in their charge, or on hire, should not allow the animals to be used in religious processions.

Elephants in religious processions.

2. The Superintendent of Kheddass, Dacca, should be addressed direct without loss of time in all cases in which an elephant is suffering from a disease, which either the Conservator or the officer in whose charge the elephant is may be unable to treat successfully, with a view to obtaining advice.

Sick elephants.

3. All *guddies* and *gaddelas* required by this Department should be obtained from the Superintendent, Khedda Department, Dacca, on indents submitted to the Conservator.

Elephant gear.

4. The purchase of tarpaulins for Government baggage elephants will only be sanctioned every alternate year for each elephant. Tarpaulins 12' x 12' will be kept in stock at Dhubri, from which stock the Conservator will issue orders for supplies to divisional officers indenting for the same in Form No. 21 A.

Elephant tarpaulins.

5. No elephant should be let loose to graze during the day without having its forefeet hobbled.

Safe keeping of elephants.

If let loose at night (which it should never be except when fodder is not procurable after a long march), the hobbling chain will be fixed round one of

its forelegs and the tethering chain to one of its hind legs, so that it may be dragged along the ground.

In no case shall an elephant allowed to graze be left for more than six hours unattended; it must invariably be brought in for a bath and its grain both morning and evening.

6. All proposals for additions, transfers and sales of Government elephants, and any deaths that occur, must be specially reported to the Conservator for sanction.

Alteration in numbers of elephants.

7. Each jemadar of mahouts, mahouts, and grasscutters will have a service book in his possession for which he must pay, containing his description on the first page; and every payment made him on his own account or for elephant charges should be regularly recorded on the other pages, irrespective of headings, giving periods covered by payments, the number and date of item in the cash book representing the entry being quoted and initialled by the disbursing officer. No payments should be made without the production of this book. A new purchase should replace a lost book, and entries for two months previous must be made in the new book under the divisional officer's own signature. Payments for establishment and upkeep must be made not later than the month following that for which sums are due, unless there is some special reason for delay, and no advance made must remain uncleared for two months. The divisional cash book and classified abstract will contain the name of each mahout and grasscutter and of the elephant to which he is attached in support of payments made.

Elephant charges.

SECTION VII.—Examinations.

1. Rules for the examination of officers in Vernacular and Tribal languages, Law, Land Revenue, and Procedure and Accounts, with rewards, etc., for the same, are to be found in the Appendix to the Forest Department Code.

Departmental examinations.

2. The fitness of candidates as regards educational qualifications, to undergo the course of instruction at the Forest School beneficially, must be tested by divisional officers by selected questions taken from the Forest School Calendar, and a certificate to that effect should be furnished at the time any candidate is recommended to be sent to the school.

Fitness of candidates for the Forest School.

3. Rules for the admission of students to the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun, and for the course of instruction to be undergone there, are to be found in the Appendix to the Forest Department Code.

SECTION VIII.—Forest Scholarships.

1. The following rules are prescribed for the award of Forest scholarships in Assam :

(i) One or more Government scholarships of a value not exceeding Rs. 50 per mensem will be available each year, or in such years as may be notified from time to time in the *Assam Gazette* by the Conservator of Forests, for a special forest training in the English course at the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun.

(ii) This scholarship is open to natives of Assam and to any boy whose father or guardian actually is, or was at the time of his death, a resident or employé in Assam.

(iii) The scholarship is tenable for $23\frac{1}{2}$ months in the Dehra Dun Forest school, subject to the conditions of (1) good conduct, and (2) satisfactory progress.

On failure to fulfil either of the above conditions, the Director, under Rule 12, clause IX, of the rules to regulate the constitution of, admission to, and studies and discipline at, the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun, may at his discretion reduce or altogether withdraw a scholarship.

The Director may also withdraw a scholarship if the holder is declared in the opinion of the Director, acting with the consensus of a full meeting of the School officers, to be unsuitable for service in the Forest Department.

(iv) The scholarship will be awarded by the Conservator of Forests, Assam, to the most approved candidate on the results of an examination to be held at certain central places, as mentioned in Rule (vii), on or about 2nd January. The selection of the approved candidate will not be based entirely upon the number of marks awarded at the examination, but will be guided also by special considerations relating to personal character and physique.

(v) No candidate is eligible to compete for this scholarship unless he has passed the Entrance test examination held by a recognised high school.

(iv) No candidate will be allowed to compete for admission into the school who is less than 18 or more than 25 years of age, nor until he has been passed by a Civil Surgeon and complied with the conditions of Rule 12 of the rules for admission to the Dehra Dun Forest School, published at page 1313 of the *Assam Gazette* of the 21st December 1895. A copy of the rules can be seen on application at any divisional forest office.

(vii) Each candidate should submit personally an application in the form attached to these rules, not later than the 1st September, to a Forest Divisional officer of a standing not lower than that of Assistant Conservator, first grade, and should also state at which of the following centres he wishes to be examined :

Sylhet.	|	Gauhati.
Shillong.	|	Sibsagar.

(viii) The divisional officer will submit a list of candidates to the Conservator of Forests, Assam, at Shillong, so as to reach him on or before the 25th October, and the Conservator of Forests, after approval, will send a consolidated list of candidates for the whole province to the Director of the Forest School at Dehra Dun, so that the number of papers required for each centre may be supplied.

(ix) The examination will be conducted by means of printed papers, which will be forwarded by the Director of the Forest School to the Deputy Commissioner at each centre. The Head-master of the high school at each centre will preside at the examination.

(x) The session of the Forest School begins on the 15th April, before which date all the selected candidates will be required to join the school. Any candidate prevented by sickness from attending on the opening day must produce a certificate to that effect from a Civil Surgeon, failing which he will forfeit that portion of his scholarship which accrued between the 15th April and the date on which he joins. Should the candidate for any reason delay in joining the school for more than a month after the opening day, his scholarship will be cancelled.

(xi) Before entering the Forest School, the successful candidate will be required to execute an agreement and security bond as prescribed by Rule 17 of the rules for admission into the Forest School, copies of which can be obtained on application to the Conservator of Forests, Assam.

(xii) The amount recoverable under the security bond in the event of a student relinquishing his studies before taking his final certificate, or of

refusing to enter Government service after he has taken it, will be the amount spent by Government on his education at the time when he relinquishes his studies or at the time when he refuses to enter Government service.

(xiii) The form of security bond should be executed before the Deputy Commissioner of the district where the successful candidate resides. Until the said bond is executed and sent to the office of the Conservator of Forests, no scholarship bill will be passed.

Form of Application for Forest Scholarship.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Name of candidate.	Age on 1st January 189 .	Father's or guardian's name and race and profession.	Father's or guardian's residence, or, if dead, where he resided when in Assam.	Centre at which he wishes to be examined.	Year in which the candidate passed Entrance test examination.	Remarks.

Certified that this statement is correct.

The medical certificate and the certificate of respectability are enclosed.

Dated

The

189 .

Parent or Guardian.

Certified that I have read and *understand* the rules to regulate the constitution of admission to, and studies and discipline at, the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun, published in the *Assam Gazette* of the 21st December 1895.

Dated

The

189 .

Signature of Candidate.

SECTION IX.—Forest Settlements.

1. The Chief Commissioner desires district officers to be careful to see that every officer who is engaged on a forest settlement is made acquainted with the memorandum drawn up by the Inspector General of Forests on the procedure to be followed in forest settlements, and the Government of India circular forwarding it.

Procedure in Forest Settlement cases.

The reports of all Forest-Settlement-Officers appointed under section 5 of the Assam Forest Regulation should be submitted to the Chief Commissioner through the office of the Conservator of Forests, who, in forwarding them, will record his remarks.

Each forest settlement report should be accompanied by a statement of claims made and rights admitted in the form suggested in paragraph (xiv) of the memorandum by the Inspector General of Forests.

2. (i) Forwards a memorandum by the Officiating Inspector General of

Government of India circular
No. 5-F., dated the 27th April
1887.

Forests on the procedure to be followed in Forest Settlements, and observes that the principles laid down in the memorandum should, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, tend greatly to avert the occurrence of mistakes, sometimes serious in their consequences, that have occasionally arisen through Forest-Settlement-Officers, imperfectly acquainted with the duties of their office, going beyond their legitimate sphere of action, and framing settlements on principles that are at variance with existing law. In the Circular Resolution of the Home Department No. 21-F. of the 31st August 1885, occasion was taken to remark how much the work of forest settlements would gain in simplicity and value if the officers entrusted with their execution studied more carefully the provisions of the Forest Regulation on this important subject; and it is to facilitate still further the work of the Forest-Settlement-Officer, and to define more clearly the procedure indicated by law, that the present memorandum has been framed.

(ii) Calls attention to clauses 1 to 5 of the memorandum, and especially to clause 4, as expressing the views of the Government of India as to the powers and duties of the Governments in the reservation of land for forest purposes.

(iii) With regard to forest settlements in general, explains that they are not intended to obstruct Local Governments and Administrations in disposing of the produce of the State forests as they may deem expedient. The forest settlement defines rigidly, it is true, the legal title of the State to the property in question, and serves to protect that property from the accrual of other rights than those lawfully existing at the time of settlement. But when once this settlement has been effected, there is nothing to prevent Local Governments and Administrations from making such use of the forest resources as appears advisable to them, subject only to the responsibility which rests upon them of having a just regard to the fiscal interests of the State.

(iv) Working plans are necessary for the proper management of the forests, but their object is simply to work the forests to which they apply in such a way that the forests may meet the demand upon them to any extent

required, without waste and without impairing the source of supply. Up to that limit, it is for the Local Government to regulate the supply of forest-produce to meet local wants.

(v) A working plan cannot, therefore, be effectually prepared without a full and accurate knowledge of local requirements, and it has been suggested that the Forest-Settlement-Officer is well qualified, by the information acquired in the course of his duties under the Act, to indicate the nature and extent of the legitimate requirements of the people in regard to the forest under settlement by him. His Excellency in Council does not object to Forest-Settlement-Officers being made use of *extra-judicially* to make inquiries of this kind and to supply information; but it is their judicial function chiefly which is regulated by the Forest-Regulation. In this respect their duty is analogous to that of a Civil Court which awards to either party in a suit the portion of the property under litigation which appears justly due. After judgment, the Government cannot encroach upon the share of the property awarded to other claimants, but may deal as it thinks proper with the portion awarded to the State.

3. The following memorandum by the Officiating Inspector General of

Inspector General's memorandum.

Forests to the Government of India, dated the 27th April 1887, prescribes the procedure to be followed

in forest settlements :

- (i) The object of a forest settlement is in the first instance to fix and

Objects of forest settlements.

define the legal status and extent of the proprietary rights of the State in any forest or waste land constituted or declared to be forest within the meaning of the Assam Forest Regulation which is the property of the State, or over which the State has proprietary rights, or to the whole or any part of the forest-produce of which the State is entitled; and consequently to inquire and record to what extent the proprietary rights of the State are limited by legally existing adverse rights of private persons or communities; secondly, to arrange for the exercise or commutation of adverse rights so recorded, in order to allow of the property being managed with the view of obtaining the best possible return, both now and in the future, for the general public.

- (ii) The settlement of a forest, which has resulted in its constitution as a

Settlement in no way affects administration or future management.

reserve, merely determines the rights of the Government and private persons over the forest, and in no way aims at prescribing the agency by which or the manner in which, the forest is to be administered. The way in which a forest may be managed or the requirements which it is intended to meet are in every instance dictated by local circumstances. Thus, a reserved forest has not necessarily the object, as is frequently believed, of producing large timber for export or

public works, but, more often, that of supplying the local demands in smaller timber, fuel, grass, or any other forest produce. A forest may be said to fulfil its highest function when it produces, in a permanent fashion, the greatest possible quantity of that material which is most useful to the general public, and at the same time yields the best possible return to the proprietor.

(iii) The settlement of forest lands under Chapter II of the Assam Forest Regulation is a step which fixes for ever the respective rights of the Government and private persons over the lands; while the management of the forest is a matter that can be regulated by executive orders at any time and in deference to altered requirements and varying demands.

(iv) Under section 4 of the Assam Forest Regulation it rests with Local Governments to decide what forest and waste lands, being the property of the State, or over which the State has proprietary rights, or to the whole or any part of the forest-produce of which the State is entitled, should be constituted a reserved forest. There may be forests and wastes so situated as to make it impolitic to proceed with their settlement; others, again, may be burdened to such an extent by adverse rights of user that the benefits accruing to the State would not compensate for the expensive settlement prescribed by the Forest Regulation. But, as a rule, it may be laid down that it is the duty of Government to secure the best possible legal title (as prescribed by the Assam Forest Regulation) to the property or to such share as it owns in all forests and waste lands defined in section 4 of the Regulation. Having this in view, district officers should be instructed to initiate proposals for the settlement of all forests and waste lands, against the reservation of which, in the opinion of the Local Government, no forcible reasons exist.

These proposals by the district officers must naturally be of a general character only. They will simply specify the limits of the land in question in such a way as to fix its situation and to be readily intelligible to interested parties; they should not enter into any discussions likely to affect the future settlement, and render ineffective the provisions of section 7 of the Regulation.

(v) Whenever a Local Government is satisfied that no special reasons exist why land, fulfilling the description in section 4 of the Regulation, should not be constituted a reserve, the notification prescribed in section 5 should issue, and a Forest-Settlement-Officer be appointed.

(vi) The procedure of a Forest-Settlement-Officer may be considered under three separate heads, *viz.* :—

(A) the procedure previous to the adjudication of claims;

- (B) the adjudication as a Civil Court ;
- (C) the action taken after the adjudication of claims.

(vii) Under (A), the Forest-Settlement-Officer is required to—

Preliminary procedure.

- (a) specify the limits of the proposed forest ;*
- (b) explain the consequences which will ensue on the reservation of the forest ;
- (c) fix a period during which claims may be preferred either in writing or in person.

(viii) Under (B), the Forest-Settlement-Officer, acting as a Civil Court, is required to record the substance of all settlements regarding claims to rights invited under section 6. He is further required to make a similar record of any rights of which the existence is ascertained, whether from previous records or by local inquiry.

Action of Forest-Settlement-Officer proceeding as a Civil Court.

Claims can be divided into three classes—

- (1) claims to a right in, or over, land ;
- (2) claims to forest produce, including pasture ;
- (3) claims to right-of-way or watercourse.

With respect to class (3), the Forest-Settlement-Officer has only to satisfy himself of the existence of the ways or watercourses in question and to record them as such. Any action in regard to them is ruled by section 23 of the Regulation.

Referring to classes (1) and (2), the Forest-Settlement-Officer's first duty is to adjudicate on the evidence and facts before him, to decide whether the rights claimed are legally established or not, and to pass an order admitting or rejecting them accordingly in whole or in part. It is clearly the intention of the Regulation to settle these claims on their legal merits, and not with reference to any special objects which were had in view when it was proposed to constitute the forest a reserve. Claims must be admitted or rejected within the limits to which the right has been substantiated. It is of vital importance that only such rights should be admitted as are legally proved to exist, and then only to the extent proved.

There is nothing in the Forest Regulation that justifies the Forest-Settlement-Officer in providing for the prospective wants of non-existing settlers, or for a future and possibly more numerous generation ; nothing that permits the

* A forest tract proposed to be reserved frequently includes village lands, or lands the ownership of which is at least questionable, and it has been considered inconsistent with section 7 (i) of the Regulation to permit new clearings in such lands. This circumstance may result in hardship or militate against reservation. The difficulty can be overcome by excluding these lands, by special mention, from the provisions of the preliminary notification.

concession, by a Forest-Settlement-Officer, of more extensive rights than those which he finds to exist at the time of settlement. The rights claimed must be actually existing rights, vested in an individual or person, or in a definite body of persons, such as for instance a number of co-owners, or a village community. They may be rights in gross, unconnected with the ownership of immoveable property (houses or land), or they may be rights attached to the ownership of such property. They may be rights enduring only for a certain period, or for the life of the person in whom they are vested, or they may be rights which will pass to the heirs of that person, or pass in perpetuity with the property to which they are attached. But they must be existing and vested in some person, or body of persons, who can claim them at the time of settlement.

If the Forest-Settlement-Officer is permitted to provide for the indefinite prospective wants of an indefinite prospective number of right-holders, he may be providing for the gradual absorption and final extinction of the actually existing rights of the State.

It is conceivable that a claimant might establish a right of such a nature that it would possibly, in course of time, entitle him to larger benefits from a forest than he was entitled to at the time of settlement. For instance, he might show that he was entitled to pasture for *all* cattle employed by him in the cultivation of his land, and he might be in possession of extensive waste land, which he was gradually bringing under cultivation,—a process which, of necessity, would tend to increase the number of his cattle. Here the Forest-Settlement-Officer, though dealing only with “actually existing rights,” would also have to take into account “prospective wants.”

In such a case, which could probably only arise when the right in question had been specially conferred by the terms of a former grant, revenue settlement, or *sanad*, it would seem reasonable to admit the same within a maximum, which should be determined with reference to the rights actually enjoyed by the claimant at the time of making the record, and with due regard to the potential capabilities of the forest.

A prescriptive right, to exist at all, must be proved to have been regularly exercised in the past; and in no case can a prescriptive right over any forest be held to have been acquired by the continuous purchase of its produce from the owner, the element of adverse enjoyment and of enjoyment as of right, on which prescription rests, being wholly wanting.

In regard to rights of class (1), admitted in whole or in part, three courses are open to the Forest-Settlement-Officer, and these are clearly stated in sections 10 and 11 of the Regulation.

With regard to rights of class (2), similarly dealt with under sections 12 and 13, the Forest-Settlement-Officer is to record, in the manner prescribed

in section 13, his decision in all cases, whether in favour of the claimant or otherwise; and it would probably be found convenient if the Settlement-Officer briefly entered an epitome of the grounds for his decision, the evidence and finding being, as a matter of course, duly recorded at length in the judicial proceedings. Providing for this, and other details of procedure within the provisions of the Regulation as explained in this memorandum, the Local Governments may also make rules under section 72 (d) of the Regulation, similar to those issued by the Government of Madras under section 63 (b) of Act V of 1882.

Section 12 (3), and 13 (2) (i) (ii) of the Regulation provide for a complete record of the extent of such rights as have been admitted, and of the limits within which claims have been established. The preparation of this record brings to a close the duties of the Forest-Settlement-Officer when proceeding as a Civil Court.

- (ix) The Forest-Settlement-Officer should now proceed, with due regard for the maintenance of the forest, to arrange for the continued exercise of the rights to the extent admitted.

Action of Forest-Settlement-Officer after the existence and extent of rights have been adjudicated on.

Under section 13, he is at liberty to adopt one of two courses :

- (a) Alter the proposed boundaries, so as to exclude an area of forest sufficient for the exercise of the rights admitted, and convenient for the purpose;
- (b) Record an order continuing the exercise of the right to the extent admitted, at such seasons, in such portions of the forest, and under such rules as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Local Government.

It is evident that this section is only intended to regulate the legally admitted rights, and gives no power to alter or extend such rights.

If the Settlement-Officer acts under (a) the section explains clearly enough what course he should follow.

Under (b), the Forest-Settlement-Officer must record an order declaring that the claimants of the admitted rights may continue to exercise the rights to the extent admitted, (a) at such seasons, (b) within such portions of the proposed forest, and (c) subject to such rules as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Local Government.

The rules that are here referred to must not substantially detract from the rights of either the claimant or the State. Such rules are not intended to define the legal status of rights claimed, but only to control the exercise of rights admitted; for the power to make such rules is limited, and does not extend to fixing the number of cattle which a right-holder may send

into the forest, or the amount of produce he may extract. An order admitting a claim to rights of pasture or forest produce cannot therefore be limited or extended by any declaration in rules framed under section 13 (1) (b) of the Forest Regulation.

The rules might be such as to require, *e.g.*, cattle to be marked, to wear bells, or produce to be removed by certain roads.

In cases where the right admitted and recorded is of such a nature that it would, in course of time, entitle the right-holder to larger benefits from the forest than he enjoyed at the time of settlement, a maximum should be fixed in such a way as to render substantial justice to the claimants and to the State, having due regard for the well-being of the forest, *e.g.*, for a few years immediately preceding settlement the cattle of a village may have been considerably reduced by disease or other causes. It is, in this case, obviously desirable to fix a maximum number of cattle in excess of what exist. Similarly, a village, owing to dacoities, has been reduced by the migration of some of its inhabitants, who, in more settled times, may be expected to return. In such a case it may be necessary to fix the bamboos, etc., at a quantity in excess of actual present requirements.

Section 14 provides that if a reserved forest cannot be maintained as a forest side by side with the continued exercise of such rights as have been admitted over it, the Forest-Settlement-Officer may commute such rights as render a proper treatment of the forest impossible, either by cash payment or by the grant of land, or in such other way as he thinks fit. The Local Government may make rules in reference to this question, which may prescribe the basis upon which money compensation may be assessed, or land be given in exchange (Madras Government Notification G. O. No. 970, dated 27th August 1884, paragraphs 12 and 13).

(x) It is, without doubt, desirable that a professional Forest-Officer should be associated with the Forest-Settlement-Officer to assist and advise as to the action the latter may wish to take under sections 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14. The question whether a forest can be maintained or not under the exercise of certain rights, and whether the above sections are applicable to the case in point, is one demanding practical experience and professional knowledge; and the advice of the Forest-Officer, besides being useful as a means of pointing out what it is practicable to effect with due regard to the maintenance of the forest, should also prove of material assistance in arranging for a settlement of all claims on a simple and stable basis.

The Forest-Officer may be usefully consulted in the final selection of boundaries.

Desirability of assisting the Forest-Settlement-Officer with the advice of a professional Forest-Officer regarding any action taken under sections 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the Regulation.

(xv) Under section 20, the Local Government may within five years revise any arrangement, rescind or modify any order under sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 16, including any orders of revision passed by them under the latter section, provided such arrangements or orders are replaced by some other of the proceedings possible under the above section. No new rights can be admitted under this section.

(xvi) Under section 21, no right of any description can be acquired in or over a reserved forest, except by succession or under a grant or contract in writing made by or on behalf of the Government, or of some person in whom such right was vested when the notification under section 17 was issued.

NOTE.—The references in this memorandum as issued were to sections of the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878; these have here been altered to corresponding sections of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.

4. Detailed instructions for Forest-Settlement-Officers in Assam will be found in the Chief Commissioner's Circular No. 14-R., dated the 20th March 1897, which must be carefully studied and followed.

SECTION X.—Leases.

1. * All forest leases and *maháls*, unless special reasons exist for different arrangements, should have currency for the forest year, 1st July to the 30th of the following June.

Forms of leases.
A.—Agar *maháls*.

2. The following form is prescribed for the lease of agar *maháls*:

To

Son of

Resident of village
district

, pargana

Whereas the sole right to fell sasi trees (*Aquilaria Agallocha*) for the purpose of extracting agar for the period from to (both days inclusive) within the in district has been sold to you for a sum of Rs. (Rupees only).

This lease of the said right is hereby granted to you on the following conditions:

(i) That you fell sasi trees only from areas specified in this lease.

* See Rule X of Unclassed State Forest Rules, page 61.

(ii) That this lease conveys no right to foreign agar, and does not authorise you in any way to interfere with private or foreign agar, or with persons conveying it.

(iii) That you fell or cause to be felled no sasi trees of less girth than 4 feet 6 inches under a penalty of Rs. 6 fine for each tree so felled.

(iv) That if any khedda operations be begun within the State forests specified, this lease may be cancelled for the remaining period of the lease on your application.

(v) That if any other trees be materially damaged in felling the sasi trees (unless through gross carelessness on your part or on the part of your employés) you will not be held liable for the damage done, but such trees will remain the property of Government, and you will report immediately the occurrence of any such material injury.

(vi) That you will pay the full amount of Rs. (Rupees only) due on this lease in three

equal instalments as follows :

Rs.	on signing this lease.	
Rs.	on or before	189 .
Rs.	on or before	189 .

(vii) That you will not sub-let the rights conferred upon you by this lease or any portion of them.

(viii) That you convey to station which the Divisional-Officer may, on consulting your convenience, decide, all agar which you collect under this lease, and that at the station or at one or other of the stations so appointed by the Divisional-Forest-Officer, you will pay pass fees at the rate of eight annas only per maund on the agar chips collected.

(ix) That no agar collected by you under this lease shall be exported by you from the district, except under a pass granted at one of the named stations ; such pass will be granted free of charge.

(x) That you will be responsible for all breaches of the conditions of this lease whether committed by you or by persons in your employ, and that you will pay such penalty not exceeding Rs. 50 (Rupees fifty only) as may be imposed by the Divisional-Forest-Officer for each and every breach of conditions 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, or 10 of this lease, which penalty shall be leviable from you, your heirs, representatives, and assigns as a public demand, and that for breach of any of the said conditions of this lease, the lease shall, at the discretion of the Chief Commissioner, be liable to be cancelled.

(xi) That if this lease is cancelled under clause 10 for breach of any of its conditions or for non-payment by you of either instalments when due, on or before the dates specified in clause 6, the Divisional-Forest-Officer

shall have the power to re-sell it for the remaining term of the lease at your risk, and any loss which may occur on re-sale shall be leviable from you as an arrear of land revenue.

In witness whereof I, the _____ of
Forests, _____ Division, acting on behalf of and
by the authority of Government, have this day set my hand.

Dated the _____ Conservator of Forests,
_____ Division.

I accept the above lease.

Witness :

Lessee,

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

B—Cane *maháls*.

3. The following form is prescribed for the lease
of cane *maháls* :

To

Son of

Resident of

WHEREAS the right to cut and collect cane for the financial year 189 -9
(or the remaining portion thereof) in the subdivision _____ in the
district of _____, the description of boundaries of which are specified
in the schedule appended to this lease, has been sold to you for a sum of Rs.
_____, this lease of the said right is hereby granted to you
on the following conditions :

(i) That you cut cane under this lease only within the areas specified
in this lease and in no other.

(ii) That you do not cut cane on any private lands, unless authorised
by the landholders or occupiers of such lands, within the boundaries specified.

(iii) That this lease conveys no right to foreign cane, and does not
authorise you to interfere in any way with private or foreign cane or with
persons conveying it.

(iv) That you shall only cut ripe and perfectly mature cane, and not cut
it closer to the roots than one foot from the surface of the ground, and not
dig up or in any way injure the roots of the cane plants except within 50
feet from the centre of any Government road or public way.

(v) That no person shall cut cane under the authority of this lease
without being singly and individually in possession of a printed permit
from you, duly written up; books of such permits will be supplied to you
free of charge.

(vi) That no cane purchased or otherwise obtained from you shall be exported without a pass from you, duly written up; books of such passes will be supplied to you free of charge.

(vii) That the duplicates of all permits and passes issued by you during the month be duly submitted at the end of every month to the District Forest-Officer at

(viii) That you will not interfere with any raiyyats cutting cane *bonâ fide* for their own use on Government land within the specified mauzas.

(ix) That this lease conveys no right to cut down trees or to cut and collect any other forest produce whatsoever, except the material necessary for putting up temporary huts for the persons in your employ whilst collecting cane.

(x) That you and persons in your employ will give every facility to all Forest and Police-Officers when inspecting the cane cut, whether in store, in transit, or in the forests, or when inspecting the localities where the cane is being or was cut.

(xi) That you pay half the amount for which the has been sold to you on the day of sale, and the other half on or before the 1st March.

(xii) That you shall not sublet the rights conferred by this lease or any portion of them.

(xiii) That you shall be responsible for all breaches of the conditions of the lease, whether committed by you or by persons in your employ, and that you will pay such penalty, not exceeding Rs. 50, as may be imposed by the Deputy Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner for each and every such breach of conditions of this lease, which penalty shall be leviable from you, your heirs, representatives, and assigns as a public demand; and that for breach of any of the said conditions of this lease, the lease shall, at the discretion of the Chief Commissioner, be liable to be cancelled.

(xiv) That if the lease is cancelled under the next preceding clause for breach of any of its conditions or of non-payment by you of either instalment when due, the Deputy Commissioner shall have the power to resell it for the remaining term of the lease at your risk, and any loss which may accrue on resale shall be leviable from you as an arrear of land revenue.

SCHEDULE above referred to.

In witness hereof, I, the Deputy Commissioner of
acting on behalf of and by the authority of Government, have this day set my
hand.

Dated the
I accept the above lease
Witnesses :

Deputy Commissioner.

Lessee.

C—Lac *maháls*.

4. The following form is prescribed for the lease of lac *maháls* :

To

Son of

Resident of

WHEREAS the right to collect indigenous lac in the district of

within the boundaries specified in the margin, has been sold to you at the public auction held on the

Boundaries.
North. | South.
East. | West.

18 , at a revenue of Rs. for the year
18 , this license to collect such lac within the said

extent of country from 18 to 18 is hereby granted to you on the following conditions :

(i) That the revenue payable by you shall be paid in the amounts and on the dates specified herein, *viz.*, (to be fixed by Conservator).

(ii) That if the above instalments, or any part of them, remain unpaid on the dates above specified, or, in case of cancellation of this license, on the date of such cancellation, the amount due shall be recoverable as an arrear of land revenue.

(iii) That you shall collect lac yourself or by agents acting on your behalf and shall not sell, transfer, or sublet the right of collection hereby granted to you, or any part thereof, to any other person.

(iv) That neither you nor any agent acting on your behalf shall cause any unnecessary injury to the trees on which the lac is produced, nor to any other trees or forest-produce within or adjacent to the area specified in this license.

(v) That neither you nor any agent acting on your behalf shall cause injury or unnecessary annoyance to any border tribes or persons cultivating or resident within or adjacent to the area specified in this license.

(vi) That if you or any agent acting on your behalf shall commit a breach of any of the conditions of this license, such license may, in the discretion of the Conservator, be forthwith cancelled, and such fine inflicted as he may deem adequate for the offence committed.

NOTE.—A counterpart duly signed by the licensee should be retained in the office of the Divisional-Forest-Officer. The power of sanctioning the leases of lac *maháls* vests in the Conservator of Forests.

D—Sylhet river forests.

5. The following is the prescribed form of lease for working forests on rivers in Sylhet :

To

Son of

Resident of

WHEREAS the right to cut and remove timber and other forest-produce in the Government forest on either bank of the cherra and within a mile of this stream during the financial year 18 - (or the remaining portion thereof) has been sold to you for a sum of Rs. , this lease of the said right is hereby granted to you on the following conditions :

(i) That you cut timber and other forest-produce only within the areas specified in this lease, and in no others.

(ii) That you shall cut the trees in the annexed list of not less than 4½ feet in girth, measured 4 feet from the surface of the ground ; other kinds may be cut of smaller girth.

(iii) That no person shall cut timber or other forest-produce under the authority of this lease without being singly and individually in possession of a printed permit from you, duly written up ; books of such permits will be supplied to you free of charge.

(iv) That no timber or other forest-produce, cut by you or the persons in your employ under this lease, and purchased or otherwise obtained from you, shall be exported either by you or any other person without a pass from you, duly written up ; books of such passes will be supplied to you free of charge.

(v) That the duplicates of all permits and passes issued by you during the month be duly submitted at the end of every month to the District-Forest-Officer at Sylhet.

(vi) That you will not interfere with any raiyyats cutting timber or other forest-produce, *bonâ fide* for their own use.

(vii) That you and persons in your employ will give every facility to all Forest and Police-Officers when inspecting the timber and other forest-produce cut, whether in store, in transit, or in the forests, or when inspecting the localities where the same was cut.

(viii) That you will at your own expense thoroughly clear the cherra within three months from this date to the entire satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet (or the subdivisional officer of).

(ix) That all timber and other forest-produce you cut must be removed before the 31st March 189 , and that any timber or other forest-produce, cut by you or persons in your employ, which may remain in the forest or in the cherra on the latter date will be considered as Government property, and you will have no claim to it whatsoever.

(x) That you pay half the amount for which the lease has been sold to you on the day of sale, and the other half on or before the 1st March 189 .

(xi) That you shall not sublet the rights conferred by this lease or any portion of them.

(xii) That you shall be responsible for all breaches of the conditions of the lease, whether committed by you or by persons in your employ; and that you will pay such penalty, not exceeding Rs. 50, as may be imposed by the Deputy Commissioner for each and every breach of the conditions of this lease, which penalty shall be leviable from you, your heirs, representatives, and assigns as a public demand; and that for breach of any of the said conditions of this lease, the lease shall, at the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner, be liable to be cancelled immediately, and all timber and other forest produce cut in these forests be confiscated to Government.

(xiii) That if this lease is cancelled under the next preceding clause for breach of any of its conditions, or for non-payment by you of either instalment when due, the Deputy Commissioner shall have the power to re-sell it for the remaining term of the lease at your risk, and any loss which may accrue on re-sale shall be leviable from you as an arrear of land revenue.

In witness whereof, I, the Deputy Commissioner of _____, acting on behalf of and by the authority of Government, have this day set my hand.

Dated the _____

Deputy Commissioner.

I accept the above lease.

Witnesses:

Lessee.

SECTION XI.—Leave.

1. Heads of Departments and Offices are authorised to give such leave as may be necessary in each drill season, to those of their subordinates who are volunteers, in order to enable them to attend special practice, drills and field days, if such leave can be given without detriment to public business. All volunteers should also, when possible, be allowed one hour's leave each week during the drill season, for the purpose of attending parade, and if application is made on their behalf by Commanding Officers, one hour's leave, morning and evening, during any period for which a camp of exercise is held.

2. The announcement in the *Assam Gazette* of leave of absence, transfer, appointment, etc., over the signature of a Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, is sufficient authority for all officers concerned to recognise and act upon without any particular orders.

Leave to officials who are volunteers.

Authority for leave, etc.

3. When a gazetted officer returns from leave of any nature, he should immediately report the fact to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner in the General Department, as well as to the Conservator.

Report of return to duty.

Civil Officers returning from leave in Europe should report their arrival by telegraph from the port of debarkation.

4. All leave is held to commence from the actual date of making over charge, unless it does not involve the immediate deputation of an officer from another station or any formal transfer of charge in the way of taking over money or the like. The proviso in article 254 of the Civil Service Regulations does not interfere with the right of an officer to add authorised holidays to his leave. When an officer's place is taken by a *locum tenens* from another station, he may, with the Chief Commissioner's sanction, make over charge on the last working day to an officer present in the station, who would remain in charge of the absentee's office until the next working day. If an absentee's leave ends during the holidays, the Chief Commissioner will decide whether the salary of his office shall be paid to him or the officer who received charge on the day previous to the commencement of the holidays.

Addition of holidays to leave.

5. Applications should be made in demi-official form to the Conservator for an officer to leave his district during the Durga Puja, Christmas, or other holidays, for the sanction of the Chief Commissioner.

Absence from district during holidays.

6. Application must, in every case, be made, for permission to add authorised holidays to leave of any description, before the leave in question is availed of.

Special permission necessary to add authorised holidays to leave.

7. Officers proceeding on leave of any description, except casual leave, must, before their departure, furnish the Secretariat, or the Head of the Department to which they belong as the case may be, with some address through which communications can, if necessary, be made to them during the period of their leave.

Addresses while on leave.

8. (i) Casual leave not exceeding ten days in the year may be granted by the Commissioner and Heads of Departments to any officer subordinate to them, when such leave is asked for on the ground of sickness, death of relatives, urgent private affairs or other similar reasons: provided that casual leave out of the Province may not be granted without the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, which may be obtained by telegram in cases of special urgency.

Casual leave.

(ii) Casual leave should, on no account, be granted to officers to enable them to attend race or other similar meetings held in districts other than that to which they are attached.

(iii) Casual leave should not be granted as an addition to the Durga Puja Holidays. In cases of any special urgency, this rule may be relaxed with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner.

(iv) A register of casual leave granted by the Commissioner and Heads of Departments should be kept in the office of every officer empowered by these orders to grant the same.

N.B.—These orders do not apply to ministerial officers.

9. Privilege leave of absence cannot, as a rule, be given in the cold weather. Officers, therefore, should not apply for such leave between the months of October and April, unless they have very special private reasons for asking for leave. An officer who may have such special reasons should communicate them to the Conservator, who should obtain the Chief Commissioner's permission to apply before submitting an official application for privilege leave during the months named.

10. Applications by gazetted officers for leave on medical certificate should invariably be accompanied by a certificate from a Medical Board, in the form prescribed in article 894 (a) of the Civil Service Regulations. The duty of applying for the necessary orders for the calling together of a Medical Board devolves upon the Civil Surgeon of the district in which the officer requiring the leave is employed. The rules regarding medical certificates for non-gazetted officers will be found in articles 257, 257A, and 903 to 907 of the Civil Service Regulations.

11. Where a Civil Surgeon is available, all medical certificates must bear his signature, and not that of an Assistant Surgeon or Hospital Assistant serving under him. Medical certificates. Certificates so signed must be countersigned by the Civil Surgeon.

12. Letters concerning last pay certificates of officers proceeding to England should be addressed to the Treasury Account Branch, and not the Forest Branch of the Comptroller and Auditor General's office. Last pay certificates.

No officer of whatever rank, unless newly appointed to the service of Government, can begin to draw any pay or allowances in any Forest Division without producing a Last Pay Certificate signed by the officer in whose Division his pay or allowances were last disbursed.

13. The Conservator declines to take notice of telegrams sent direct to him by subordinates for special or other leave, but, in urgent cases, authorises Divisional Officers to grant such leave, under existing rules, in anticipation of sanction.

Leave to subordinates in special circumstances.

14. The prescribed forms in which applications to the Conservator for leave and reports of return to duty should be made are as follows :

Applications for leave and reports of returns to duty, in the case of subordinate officers.

(I).—Application for leave of subordinate.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that (name), (rank), (grade), (permanent or temporary establishment, if latter budget sub-head to which his pay is charged), (present pay), (post), has applied for leave (particulars, class, and period of leave asked for), of which he desires to avail himself from (date).

(ii) From an examination of his service book and personal file, I have ascertained that he last returned from the (particulars, class, and period of last leave), sanctioned in your (letter No. and date or office order as the case may be), on (date).

(iii) I recommend that the leave applied for be granted for a period of months with effect from (date) and that the following arrangements may be made for carrying on (applicant's) duties during his absence.

(II).—Report of return from leave of subordinate.

With reference to the correspondence resting with my letter (No. and date), I have the honour to report that (name), (rank), (grade), (permanent or temporary establishment, if latter budget sub-head to which pay is charged), reported his return from the (period and class) leave sanctioned in your (letter No. and date or office order as the case may be) at (place) on (date), and resumed charge of his duties as (particulars) at (place) on (date)*

(ii) Owing to his return from leave the following changes have taken place in the establishment of this division: (particulars in full with name, rank, class of establishment, post, date, etc., etc., as indicated above).

15 Rules for the granting of casual leave to subordinates are as follows :

Grant of casual leave to subordinates by Divisional Officers.

(i) On no account may casual leave for more than ten days in any one year, between 1st April and 31st March following, be granted by a divisional officer to any one of his subordinates.

* *Note.*—If the dates of reporting return and resuming charge are not the same, explanation of circumstances under which they differ must be given. An officer rejoining the same post that he held on proceeding on privilege leave is not entitled to any subsidiary leave or joining time.

(ii) When such leave is granted it should be at once reported to the Conservator, the purpose for which it was granted being stated.

(iii) On each occasion on which such leave is granted, it shall be recorded in a book kept for the purpose.

(iv) If any one applies for more than ten days' casual leave, his application will be forwarded to the Conservator for orders.

(v) Casual leave can in no case be granted in continuation of, or be prefixed to, any other kind of leave, nor can it be taken in continuation of, or as prefixed to, any gazetted holidays during which the office may be closed; it may, however, be commuted to any other kind of leave with retrospective effect.

(vi) All applications for leave, whether casual or privilege, that have under the rules to be submitted for the Conservator's sanction, must be so submitted at such a time before the leave will (if sanctioned) commence as will allow of a reply being received before the leave is availed of.

SECTION XII.—Non-Gazetted and Ministerial Officers.

1. The fact that prospective changes are under consideration and likely to be adopted, which will involve a reduction of establishment, should not be used to justify the removal of an officer from his appointment. Claims for compensation are liable to arise in such circumstances, which are difficult to meet, especially if anything has prevented the proposed reduction from being carried out. No Government servant should, in such cases, be discharged until the reduction of establishment, entailing the abolition of his post, has been finally determined on and has been actually ordered by Government.

2. When ministerial officers are departmentally punished, or ordered to retire, copies of such orders, if applied for by them, must be given free of cost.

3. The word "dismissal" is to be restricted to the case of an officer removed with disgrace. In other cases "removal" is the proper word to be used. A "dismissed" officer may not be re-employed in the public service.

The following rules should be observed in dealing with all cases of the removal or discharge and the dismissal of public servants:

(i) Removal from office for unfitness should not usually entail further consequences, and should not operate as a bar to future re-employment on

duties for which the person removed may be suited : removal should be the penalty in all cases where it is not thought necessary to proscribe future re-employment under Government. In every order under which a Government servant is deprived of an appointment it should be stated whether he is merely removed from office or whether he is dismissed.

(ii) Officers who have been dismissed should not ordinarily be re-employed, and in no case should they be re-employed without the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner.

(iii) Ordinary cases of dismissal of non-gazetted officers will not be notified in the Government Gazette ; but, in order to prevent their re-employment under Government, officers should ascertain from each applicant for employment whether he has previously been in Government service ; and, if so, they should require such applicant to produce a copy of his character book or other record of service and at the same time refer to his previous employer, if the circumstances connected with his discharge are not clear.

(iv) Dismissal will be notified only—(1) when it is necessary to inform the public of the removal from service of an officer, whether because his appointment was previously gazetted, or from any other cause ; and (2) when it is necessary to take more than ordinary precautions to exclude from re-employment under Government a public servant dismissed for a heinous offence, *e.g.*, for fraud or falsification of accounts.

(v) In the case of officers dismissed whose dismissal is notified in accordance with sub-paragraph (iv) above, the notification will simply state that Government has dispensed with his services, except when the cause of dismissal constitutes a disqualification under the terms of the law regulating the tenure of a particular appointment, in which case alone a statement of the grounds of dismissal will be recorded.

In order to prevent the re-employment of persons dismissed from Government service, an annual return should be submitted in the prescribed form, so as to reach the Secretariat not later than the 1st of March of each year, of servants of Government other than menial servants who have been dismissed during the preceding calendar year.

Deputy Commissioners in the Assam Valley should submit their returns to the Commissioner, who will submit a consolidated return for his division. A return for the whole province will then be compiled in the Secretariat, and circulated to officers. It should be noted that this statement will include only Government servants *dismissed* from Government service, and not those who are merely *removed* from their appointments.

It is not necessary to include menial servants in the statement now prescribed; but the principles laid down should be followed, so far as they are applicable, in the case of employment and discharge of menial servants.

The form referred to above must be submitted by Divisional Officers to the Conservator on the 1st February of each year, and the number of his order of dismissal be quoted in the last column.

4. Before dismissing any public servant drawing more than Rs. 10 a month, the charge against him must be reduced to writing, his defence must be taken in or reduced to writing, and the decision thereon must also be in writing. The only cases in which this rule may be relaxed are when dismissal takes place in consequence of facts elicited at a judicial trial, or when persons abscond with an accusation hanging over their heads. Cases occasionally occur in which it is considered inexpedient to undertake the prosecution of Government servants who are dismissed on account of offences for which they are liable to be criminally prosecuted. In such cases the reasons which render it inexpedient to undertake a criminal prosecution should be recorded at the time that the order of dismissal is passed.

When there is no objection to such a course, reasons should be included in the order of dismissal, of which the dismissed servant receives a copy, but in every case a copy of the recorded reasons for not instituting a prosecution, when the offender was liable to one, should be forwarded, with any report that may afterwards be made on the case, to the Chief Commissioner.

The dismissal of rangers, deputy rangers, foresters and forest guards is regulated by section 59 of the Forest Department Code, 4th edition.

5. Ministerial officers may not take service in two offices at once, or give part of their time to private service, and officers are forbidden to employ their official subordinates upon their private concerns.

Heads of offices are not to employ officers of other establishments, without the permission of the head of the office concerned. An officer not resigning, nor obtaining the consent of his official superior for joining another appointment, is liable to dismissal from his previous one.

6. Ministerial officers are attached to their office, and heads of offices are forbidden to carry them about with themselves when they are transferred to other districts.

Officers belong to the office.

7. No ministerial officer holding a responsible position and dealing with accounts and money can be allowed to hold his appointment uninterruptedly for an indefinite time. After holding it for seven years, he must either be transferred to another appointment, in the same or another office, or department, or be required to go on leave for a period of at least three months.

Ministerial officers dealing with money or accounts.

When an officer is transferred or required to go on leave, in accordance with these orders, his place shall not be taken by a relative or other person identified with him in interest. When giving effect to the required periodical change of duties, by means of a temporary interchange of appointments, the change should not be shown in the salary bills, but each officer should be shown as holding the post of which he draws the pay.

8. Ministerial officers may not take farms or leases from any landholder in the district in which they are employed.

Trading and taking farms forbidden.

Ministerial officers not being gazetted officers are permitted to hold shares in Trading Companies, and even to engage in the direction or management of such companies, provided they give to Government the whole of the time for which they are paid, so long as they are not involved thereby in pecuniary difficulties or disreputable associations. But they must abstain from trading and from any investment, though in itself unobjectionable, which would interest them privately in any affairs with which their public duty is concerned.

N.B.—Taking a lease of an opium shop is “trading.”

9. A ministerial officer owning or acquiring, by purchase, inheritance or otherwise, houses or lands in the district in which he is employed, or in any other district, must report the circumstance at once to the head of the office. A register in English (No. 64) is to be kept in the Deputy Commissioner’s office, showing the landed property belonging to each officer serving in his district. Ministerial officers are strictly prohibited from purchasing or taking on lease any property or any interest in property which has been within three years preceding the subject of any proceedings in the court or office to which they are attached, or in any court or office subordinate to the court or office to which they are attached.

Acquisition of property.

N.B.—“Property” in the above rule includes an elephant *mahál*, a resumed waste land grant, etc., and the word “proceedings” is not limited to “legal proceedings.”

10. Ministerial officers are forbidden to bid for waste land grants sold under the rules for special cultivation. There is, however, nothing to prevent their relatives from bidding for such lands, but district officers should take care that such transactions are not *benami*, and should warn the officers concerned that any such bidding will be looked upon with great suspicion.

11. Non-gazetted officers are forbidden to borrow money in the district in which they are employed, but the head of the office may allow a relaxation of the general rule in exceptional cases.

12. All heads of offices having establishments in the pay of Government should make their subordinates distinctly understand that all public servants arrested for debt or having recourse to the insolvent court, will be deemed to have forfeited their appointments, unless it can be shown that their embarrassments have been the result of unforeseen misfortune, or of circumstances over which they could exercise no control, and have not proceeded from dissipated or extravagant habits. Every case in which a servant of Government is arrested for debt, or resorts to the insolvent court, should be invariably reported for the information of the Chief Commissioner, with a copy of the schedule filed in the insolvency court, when recourse is had to that court.

13. Where half the salary of a Government official is constantly being attached for debt, or has been continuously under attachment for more than two years, or is attached for a sum which, under ordinary circumstances, it will require more than two years to repay, a full schedule of the officer's debts should be obtained by the head of the office, and the case dealt with in the same way as if the debtor had taken advantage of the insolvency court. In such cases it should be specially ascertained—

- (i) what is the proportion of the debts to the salary and the extent to which they detract from the debtor's efficiency as a public servant;
- (ii) whether the debtor's position is irretrievable;
- (iii) whether it is desirable, under the circumstances, to retain him—
 - (a) in the particular post he occupies, or
 - (b) in any position under Government.

14. All clerks and other ministerial officers in Government service should be given clearly to understand that if they are shown to have communicated to persons not employed in the same office, whether such persons are in Government service or not, and whatever may be their position, any information whatsoever, whether

Official information not to be divulged.

important or unimportant, which they have obtained in the course of business, they expose themselves to the penalty of immediate suspension and ultimate dismissal.

15. Rules for the employment of unpaid apprentices in mufassal offices are to be found in rule 31, section III, Chapter V of the Manual of Executive Rules.

Apprentices in offices.

16. A register should be kept up in each district showing the name of each member of the subordinate service and of ministerial establishments of every department, and the names of all other Government servants, pleaders, bankers, landholders, and the like in the province to whom he is related. The information necessary for writing up the register should be called for annually. In the case of new appointments the necessary particulars may be ascertained from the nomination roll.

Register of relations.

When an officer is transferred, the particulars regarding him entered in this register should be communicated to the head of the office to which his services are transferred.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Appointment of officer.	Name and parentage of the officer.	Place of birth, age when appointed, religion, and caste.	Family residence, village, pargana and district.	Statement of past employment, whether private or in the service of Government.	Statement of landed and other property held by the officer, with its situation and value.	Particulars of connection of officer with other Government officers, or with landholders, pleaders, and bankers of the district in which employed, or other districts of the province.	Remarks and initials of head of office.

When recommending the appointment of any person to either the permanent or temporary Forest or office establishment, Divisional Officers will either certify that such person is not in any way related to or dependent on any member of the establishments in his Division, or if he is so related, he will report the fact, with particulars of relationship, &c.

17. Conservators are authorised to sanction the retention of the services of non-gazetted subordinates up to 60 years of age.

Extensions of service of non-gazetted officers.

18. The power of declaring such officers inefficient and compelling them to retire vests only in the Chief Commissioner.

Compulsory retirement.

Employment of pensioned native soldiers.

19. Pensioned native soldiers should be employed as far as possible as foresters, forest guards, or peons.

20. Great care should be observed in the preparation of descriptive rolls of pensioners, and a full description of the pensioner be in every instance carefully given on the first page of the application for pension against the head "17—Marks," the present system of entering one or two personal marks being insufficient for the purposes of identification by the paying officers.

21. Security should be taken from an officer appointed, on probation, who would otherwise be required to give security under the rules in force if appointed permanently.

22. The form of security bond and mortgage deed prepared by the Solicitor to the Government of India prescribed in the Chief Commissioner's Circular No. 29-R., dated the 30th June 1890, to which the recovery clause prescribed by Circular No. 68-R., dated the 16th July 1889, should invariably be added, should be used in case of treasurers, and, with necessary modifications (which should be submitted for the approval of the Chief Commissioner) in case of other ministerial officers entrusted with the charge of public money.

23. All security bonds when accepted must be registered under Act III of 1877; such bonds, given on plain paper by ministerial officers, are exempted from payment of registration fees.

24. As a general rule, Government promissory notes, or stock notes, should be taken as security, but Savings Bank deposits will also be accepted. Land held on annual *patta* cannot ever be received as security, and landed property of other descriptions should only be accepted when it is impossible to obtain any other kind of security.

25. With reference to Rule 42 of the Savings Bank rules, section VII of the Indian Postal Guide, officers should see that the declaration required by the rule is duly recorded by the depositor concerned in the prescribed form, when opening a security deposit account in the Savings Bank.

26. Government promissory notes, deposited as security, should be transmitted, through the office of the Comptroller, Assam, to the Comptroller General, Calcutta, for safe custody, the security bond being forwarded to the Inspector General of Registration in a registered cover.

27. In all cases where insuperable difficulties are not found to present themselves, security in the shape of Government securities should be deposited, and the exact form of bond prescribed by Circular No. 33, dated the 10th December 1885, should be adhered to. In all cases in which this form of security cannot be obtained, or in which it is found necessary to deviate from the form of bond prescribed as above, the matter should be referred for the orders of the Chief Commissioner. With a view to making a security recoverable as if it were an arrear of land revenue, there should be inserted in the prescribed form of bond, before the present last clause, the following :

Precautions regarding securities and deductions from pay to form security fund.

And it is hereby further agreed and declared by and between the said [*Principal*] and the said [*one surety*] and [*other sureties*] as his the said [*Principal's*] sureties and the said Secretary of State that all money that may become due to the said Secretary of State under these presents shall without prejudice to any other remedy available for its recovery be recoverable under "The Public Demands Recovery Act 1880 (of the Bengal Code)" or when that Act is not or may cease to be in force in the same manner as if it was an arrear of land revenue due from the person by whom it is payable.

As regards cases in which it is proposed to accept a charge on immoveable property instead of Government securities, it should be remembered that, especially when a charge on land, such as permanently-settled land in Sylhet, is offered, this is the most risky kind of security that can be obtained, and, except as the last resort, such security should not in future be accepted. In order to meet cases in which it may be unavoidable to accept security in this form, the Government of India have been asked for a suitable form of bond, and copies of it will be circulated hereafter. It should also be remembered that in all cases in which immoveable property has been accepted as security, it is highly important that a careful inquiry, the cost of which will be borne by Government, should be made annually regarding the condition and circumstances of the property.

With reference to the system of allowing monthly deductions from salary to provide a security fund, although, in the Chief Commissioner's opinion, such system is for more than one reason objectionable, it seems to be unavoidable in the case of some of the minor ministerial officers employed in this province. The Chief Commissioner will, therefore, be prepared to sanction it when it is absolutely unavoidable, on the difficulty being reported in the case of ministerial officers who are never entrusted with money or property exceeding Rs. 500 in value. In such cases a bond should be obtained, with two reliable personal sureties, in the prescribed form, omitting, however, the references to the deposit of securities. When the full amount of the security required is deposited by the officer required to furnish security, it is unnecessary to take additional security from his sureties.

The above orders apply only to future cases: but the Chief Commissioner desires an examination of the cases of all those whose security has already been deposited, in which the amount of security is fixed at Rs. 1,000 and upwards, and copies of the instruments with remarks should be forwarded for the Chief Commissioner's perusal.

28. The following scale should be adhered to when taking security deposits

Amounts to be deposited as cash security by subordinates. from the undermentioned officials:

	Rs.
Forest rangers	500
Deputy Ranger or Forester in charge of a range ...	300
Other Foresters	250
Head clerk of a divisional office	200
Second clerk of ditto	100

Officials who have not lodged their security must be called upon to do so, and, in the event of their not being able to deposit the necessary amount in cash or other security in accordance with the rules in force, a deduction of 20 per cent. must be made from their monthly pay until the full amount of the security has been realised, a bond for the full amount being obtained in accordance with rule.

All sums deducted as security will be deposited in a Post Office Savings Bank and made payable only on the written order of the Divisional Forest-Officer.

29. Rangers take rank after Inspectors of Police, and should be conceded a chair when visiting European officers, and be admitted, if of a certain standing, to Provincial *Durbars* in their own divisions.

30. Subordinates of lower rank than forest rangers may, if Local Governments so wish, be awarded chevrons to wear on the coat sleeve, for approved service and good conduct, to a limit of three per man.

31. Civilian clerks and subordinates, as efficient volunteers, are eligible for medals, when accompanying an army on active service, on the same conditions as combatants under G. G. O. No. 706 of 1887.

32. Communications to the Director of the Forest School, regarding students under his control, should issue from Conservators, and not from divisional officers,

Communications to the Director of the Forest School.

33. Divisional Forest Officers should satisfy themselves, as far as practi-

Physical fitness for employ-
ment of applicants.

cable, of the physical fitness of men they recommend for appointment as foresters, or for promotion in that grade, to avoid the numerous subsequent resignations of men not constitutionally strong enough for their work. All applicants for appointments must present themselves, with their certificates, before divisional officers in the first instance, who will forward their applications to the Conservator or not, as they may think fit.

34. Foresters, clerks, and others discharged from the service, resigning, or

Discharged subordinates from
one division not to be employed
in another.

having their services dispensed with for incapacity, by either the Conservator or divisional officers, should not be re-employed in another division without the consent of the officer under whom they previously served, and if such consent is obtained, a reference to the original correspondence must be made for the Conservator's orders.

35. Transfers and postings of subordinates on permanent or temporary

Transfers and postings of sub-
ordinates.

establishments, drawing Rs. 15 and upwards per mensem, should be reported to the Conservator for sanction. The date of such postings should be entered in column 11 of the quarterly establishment roll. The Conservator is authorised to transfer the post of any subordinate officer of the Forest Department from one division to another whenever necessary without applying for the Chief Commissioner's sanction in each case.

36. The sanctioned clerical establishment of the department is graded as follows :

Pay of clerical staff.

Superintendent, Conservator's office	...	...	Rs. 150—10—200
Clerk 1st grade	...	...	" 100
" 2nd "	...	...	" 80
" 3rd "	...	...	" 70
" 4th "	...	...	" 60
" 5th "	...	...	" 50
" 6th "	...	...	" 45
" 7th "	...	...	" 40
" 8th "	...	...	" 35

Promotion will be ruled by merit from the general list, seniority only being taken into consideration when two men's claims are equal in the same grade.

37. Clerks and others employed in the Department are prohibited from

Prohibits divisional office
clerks and others from commu-
nicating direct with the Super-
intendent of the Conservator's
office.

communicating direct, under official cover, with the Superintendent of the Conservator's office. Any official communication with any one employed in the Conservator's office should be addressed to the divisional officer who will forward it or not to the Conservator as he deems fit.

38. Service books are only necessary for men employed on the permanent establishment, but should also be maintained for those on temporary establishments, as such may be made permanent at any time, in which case previous service on the temporary establishment counts for pension under article 405 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Service books.

39. Only recorded censure or praise should be entered in service books, and not personal opinions on qualifications of officers each time there is a transfer of an officer or subordinate: the latter procedure is strictly prohibited.

Only recorded censure or praise to be entered in service books.

40. The form provided in Comptroller and Auditor General's Circular No. 12, dated the 25th August 1884, should be maintained as an establishment roll in divisional offices, but the rules regarding the disbursement of salaries to subordinate establishments it contains have been cancelled.

Establishment roll.

41. Except on receipt of specific instructions from the Conservator, no person shall be employed in any permanent or temporary post in this department that carries a salary of Rs. 15 per mensem or more except as officiating in such post on twelve months' probation.

New appointments to be on probation.

SECTION XIII.—Office Routine.

1. The "forest year" is for the period extending from the 1st July to the 30th of the following June, and all reports, returns, etc., are to be for that period, except such as are required by the Financial Department.

Forest year.

2. The name and official designation of the writer of an official letter, with the number and date of the letter, must in all cases be prefixed to it; the number and date of every letter referred to should invariably be quoted, and every paragraph should be numbered. All communications should commence with reference to previous correspondence whenever there has been any. All the letters of one day's despatch addressed to one authority should be enclosed in one envelope, unless this would make the envelope inconveniently bulky and heavy.

Form of letters.

3. The contents of a cover should, as far as possible, be always of the same size as the cover itself, and the use of unnecessarily large envelopes is prohibited.

Arrangement in envelopes.

4. Officers should be prompt in furnishing all information required from them. Reminders should not be allowed to remain unreplyed to, but if any proper reason exists why certain information cannot be promptly furnished, that reason should at once be stated, in reply to the officer who requires it.

Replies to be prompt.

5. All reports to superior authority must be complete in themselves. Voluminous enclosures are not to be submitted with a simple expression of opinion. It is the duty of every officer making a report to superior authority to state the case concisely in his own language, avoiding all unnecessary prolixity, and not submitting enclosures that are not distinctly required to elucidate the subject. This rule applies with special force to vernacular documents, which it can be very rarely necessary to forward. It is a primary rule that all useless correspondence is to be avoided.

Reports to be complete.

6. On the general subject of office routine, Section III, Chapter XI of the Manual of Executive Rules can be studied with advantage by divisional officers.

General office routine.

Consecutive numbers of letters and divisional index.

7. All letters from the Conservator's office bear separate series of consecutive numbers, with an index letter as follows :

A. Local Administration letters.	H. Gáro Hills division's letters.
B. Comptroller and Auditor General's letters	I. Deputy Commissioner's "
C. Kámrúp division's letters.	K. Miscellaneous "
D. Darrang " "	L. Sibságar division's "
E. Lakhimpur " "	M. Sylhet " "
F. Góalpára " "	N. Working Plans division's letters.
G. Cachar " "	O. Nowgong " "

The object is that divisional officers may check receipts by examining their registers, and head clerks should draw immediate attention to omissions.

8 This is regulated by Rule 21, Section III, Chapter XI of the Manual of Executive Rules, and by Section XVII, Rule 28 of this Manual.

Correspondence between Deputy Commissioner and forest officers.

9. Except in urgent cases, letters should not be sent in original with a request for their return ; as a general rule, copies of the correspondence should be forwarded and the originals retained in the transmitting office.

Copies of correspondence to be forwarded as enclosures to letters.

10. All notifications and other matter intended for publication in the gazette should reach the publisher's office on the preceding Thursday to ensure its appearance in that week's gazette. The names of all persons and places which are intended

Publication of notices, &c.

for publications in the gazette should be written in printed and not in running character by all officers. Names of persons and places should, when not in printed character, be written clearly and distinctly.

Vernacular notices.

- (1) Notice of the sale of leases of elephant *mohá's*.
- (2) Notice of the sale of leases of rubber *mohá's*.
- (3) Notice of the sale of leases of lac *mohá's*.
- (4) Notice of the sale of leases of lime quarries.
- (5) Notice of the sale of leases of waste lands.
- (6) Draft municipal bye-laws.
- (7) Notifications with regard to matters of public interest.

11. It is desirable that vernacular translations of all notices, rules and advertisements, such as those noted in the margin, should be published in the *Assam Gazette* for general information. Officers submitting such and similar notices for publication should, therefore, see that vernacular translations accompany them.

12. Instructions for dealing with gazettes are found in Rule 5, Section IV, Chapter XI of the Manual of Executive Rules:

Gazettes.

13. All books and periodicals procured for any office must be registered or filed, and must never be permanently removed from the office for which they were intended.

Books to be in one place.

They must be collected together in one place, under the charge of the head clerk, and, if practicable, a separate shelf or rack should be assigned to them.

Catalogue of books.

14. A revised catalogue of books must be prepared from time to time, and missing books accounted for.

15. No book is to be removed from the library without permission of the head of the office. A receipt must be invariably taken from an officer removing a book, to be returned

Removal of books.

to him, or cancelled, when the book is returned to the library.

16. Every officer, upon receiving charge of an office to which a library is attached, must satisfy himself as to the state of the library. Unless he then reports that the books are

Charge of library.

out of order, or that any volumes are missing, it will be assumed that he received the library in good order, and he will be thenceforward responsible for any defects.

17. The following procedure should be observed in regard to the disposal of inspection remarks recorded by the Chief Commissioner in the inspection register of any jail, dispensary, or other public institution or office:

Inspections by the Chief Commissioner.

sary, or other public institution or office :

- (i) A copy of the remarks should, in all cases, be sent by the officer in charge of the institution or office inspected, *through the ordinary channel*, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner in the General Department.

- (ii) The inspection remarks should be copied on half-margin, and should be accompanied by such marginal explanations on the points noticed as may seem to be called for by the officer in charge, or by any of his superior officers through whom the inspection remarks are sent.
- (iii) Copies of inspection remarks should be transmitted by the forwarding officer within a fortnight of the date on which the remarks are recorded.

18. The head of every office must keep a careful watch over the consumption of stationery and is responsible for preventing its use for any other purpose than the public service. The stores of stationery must be placed in special charge (under lock and key) of a responsible assistant in the office, by whom they should be issued when required.

19. The clerk in charge of the stationery must keep an account of the receipts and issues of stationery in a book, which will be supplied for the purpose by the Superintendent of Stationery, to whom it must be sent for inspection when required. All issues of stationery must be acknowledged in the book by the signature of the officer who receives the articles. The account must be balanced weekly and the balance checked at least once a month by an independent clerk to be named by the head clerk. Any abuse apparent to the clerk in charge of the stationery must be brought to the immediate notice of the head of the office.

20. Stationery should be kept on shelves or in almirahs, and never in boxes. It should be constantly inspected to ensure it against damage from white ants and other mishaps.

21. For detailed particulars regarding indents, use, care, etc., of stationery, Section IX of Chapter XI of the Manual of Executive Rules should be consulted.

22. State messages may be sent, either ordinary, urgent, or deferred. In Assam "urgent" messages have, under ordinary circumstances, but slight advantage over "ordinary" telegrams, and the latter should, therefore, be used in most cases in preference to the former.

23. Brevity, next to clearness, must be considered to be the most important consideration in telegraphic messages.

24. When telegraph stamps are received for reply to a message, or when the reply has been prepaid, the message should always be classed as "private" not State. A receipt for a service telegram can be used for any office, whereas that for a private telegram is valueless.

25. When State telegrams are sent to places off the telegraph line, and such telegrams have to be carried on by post to their destination, directions should invariably be given in the space provided in all messages for "official instructions".

26. Telegrams must not be sent when a letter will do as well. Controlling officers may at any time call upon their subordinates to justify any apparently large expenditure on telegrams.

27. In cases of extraordinary urgency, a message countersigned by the chief civil or military authority at a station can be sent from any office at any time.

28. Communications by telegraph regarding applications of officers for leave of absence, or for appointments, or in regard to other personal matters should not be sent at the public expense, unless the interests of the service require it. If an officer seeking for leave, or applying for an appointment, desires to receive a reply by telegraph, he should pay for the reply himself.

29. The abbreviations to be used in addressing official telegrams will be found in Section XXI of the Indian Telegraph Guide.

30. The distinctions between cases and files, and the upkeep of bundles of correspondence are explained in sections 234 to 240 of the Forest Department Code. A list for general guidance is as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Accounts. | 19. Office business. |
| 2. Administration. | 20. Personal files, gazetted officers. |
| 3. Books and maps. | 21. " " subordinates. |
| 4. Budget. | 22. Plantations. |
| 5. Buildings. | 23. Reserved forests. |
| 6. Concessions and free grants. | 24. Returns and forms. |
| 7. Conservator's circulars. | 25. Revenue. |
| 8. Contracts and leases. | 26. Roads and communications. |
| 9. Demarcation. | 27. Saw-mills. |
| 10. Dépôts. | 28. Specimens. |
| 11. Establishments. | 29. Stationery. |
| 12. Exchange compensation allowance. | 30. Stores. |
| 13. Fire protection. | 31. Surveys. |
| 14. Forest cases. | 32. Timber operations, Departmental. |
| 15. Government orders. | 33. " " purchasers. |
| 16. <i>Jhum</i> cultivation. | 34. Travelling allowances. |
| 17. Live stock. | 35. Unclassed State forests. |
| 18. Miscellaneous. | 36. Waste land valuations. |

37. Working-plans.

31. The destruction of documents generally is regulated by the rules contained in sections 247, 248, and 255 of the Forest Department Code, fourth edition. For special returns and forms, destruction is authorised within the following limits:

Destruction of documents.				
Form No. 1.—Register of reserved forests	...	A permanent record never to be destroyed.		
" " 2.—	} Control Book for working-plans ...	To be preserved till a working-plan or other report, embodying a history and statistics of the period considered, has been prepared or revised.		
" " 2a.—				
" " 3.—Record of works of reproduction, etc.	...			
" " 4.—Register of receipts of timber in depôts		5 years.		
" " 5.—" disposals " "		5 "		
" " 6.—Receipts and issues of timber, etc., in depôts	... ..	5 "		
" " 7.—Sales of timber, etc., collected by Government agency	... ..	5 "		
" " 8.—Drift timber operations	... ..	3 "		
" " 9.—Revenue from timber, etc., collected by purchasers	... ..	3 "		
" " 10.—Outstandings on account of revenue	... ..	3 "		
" " 11.—Register of free grants	... ..	5 "		
" " 12.—Bill form	... ..	3 "		
" " 13.—Receipt form	... ..	3 "		
" " 14.—Permit form	... ..	3 "		
" " 15.—Store and tool return	... ..	3 "		
" " 15a.—Seized and confiscated timber return		3 "		
" " 16.—Budget estimates	... ..	5 "		
" " 17.—Application for credits (divisions)	... ..	3 "		
" " 18.—Ditto ditto (circles)	... ..	3 "		
" " 19.—Account current with treasury	... ..	6 "		
" " 20.—Register of cheques	... ..	6 "		
" " 21.—Cash balance report	... ..	3 "		
" " 22.—Daily cash book	... ..	25 "		
" " 22a.—Monthly cash account	... ..	25 "		
" " 23.—Establishment bill	... ..	3 "		
" " 24.—Travelling allowance bill	... ..	3 "		
" " 25.—Revenue from sales to Public Department	... ..	3 "		
" " 28.—Contractor's and disbursers' ledger	... ..	25 "		
" " 29.—Abstract of contractor's and disbursers' ledger	... ..	3 "		
" " 30.—Classified abstract of revenue and expenditure	... ..	3 "	See third clause of section 247 Forest Department Code, fourth edition.	

Form No. 31.—Remittances to treasuries	...	3 years.
„ „ 32.—Record of sanctioned works	...	3 „
„ „ 33.—Revenue and expenditure in forest units	...	} See third clause of section 247 of the Forest Department Code, fourth edition.
„ „ 34.—Financial results	...	
„ „ 35.—Objection statement	...	3 years.
„ „ 36.—Summary of revenue and expenditure	...	3 „
„ „ 37.—Account current	...	3 „
Office business forms (Nos. 38 to 44)...	...	3 „
Transfer of charge (Form No. 45)	...	3 „
Annual returns (Forms Nos. 46 to 65)	...	3 „
Half-yearly return (Form No. 66)	...	3 „
Establishment returns (Forms Nos. 67 and 68)	...	3 „
Capital expenditure (Form No. 69)	...	5 „

32. The Conservator's orders or those of other superior officers are not to be conveyed to outsiders, in the form of a copy of those originally issued.

Orders in original or copies not to be furnished to others.

33. The unnecessary use of postage stamps of low value, when fewer stamps of a higher denomination would suffice for the prepayment of postage on service parcels, should be avoided.

Postage stamps.

34. Economy in the use of postage stamps is urged on divisional officers, who should avoid sending more than the necessary number of covers, and should detain receipts for books, etc., to be enclosed with other correspondence.

Economy in postage.

35. The use of vernacular words in English correspondence, unless in any case it is unavoidable, is prohibited. If a vernacular word is unavoidably used, the English equivalent must be added. When local eras or dates are used for any special purpose, the English equivalents should be added, but as a general rule the latter only should be given.

Vernacular words and dates.

36. Instructions regarding the upkeep of Manuals are as follows :

Manuals.

(i) Correction slips to Manuals issued from the Secretariat should be issued every month, and within one month, as a general rule, of the close of the month to which the orders relate, and

(ii) the same procedure should also be followed in regard to the issue of correction slips to the Manuals published by Heads of Departments. The slips should be entered in the Manual to which they relate within a fortnight of their receipt, and they should be neatly pasted in, the instructions at the head of each slip as to the place of insertion (which should be cut off before

the slip is pasted in) being strictly adhered to. When a correction is directed to be made in manuscript, the alteration required should be made in red ink in the Manual concerned, and the correction slip indicating the correction may then be destroyed. Correction slips to Manuals published by Heads of Departments, such as the Registration Manual, the Educational Manual, or the Forest Manual, will be issued by the Head of the Department concerned. Those for other Manuals will continue to be issued from the Secretariat.

(iii) A separate register for each Manual should be kept in the following form :

Register of Correction Slips for Manual.

Number of slip.	Page on which pasted.	Date of receipt.	Date of pasting.	Remarks.

The corrections made in each Manual should be compared with the register relating to it by a Gazetted Officer at least once a quarter, who will record in the column of remarks, the date and the results of his inspection. The Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts, and all Heads of Departments should take such steps as they may think necessary to ensure that the Manuals in their own offices are duly corrected and kept up to date.

(iv) Every officer in possession of a Manual should, on the first day of each quarter, submit, through the proper channel, a certificate to the effect that every Manual in his office has been corrected to the end of the last quarter but one, the names of the Manuals being specified. In the case of departmental Manuals, the certificates should be submitted to the Head of the Department concerned; the certificates regarding the maintenance of other Manuals should be submitted to the Secretariat. Deputy Commissioners should require all officers immediately subordinate to them to whom any Manuals have been issued, to submit their quarterly certificates to them, a consolidated certificate for the district being submitted by each Deputy Commissioner to the Head of the Department concerned, in the case of departmental Manuals, and to the Commissioner in the Assam Valley and to this office elsewhere, in the case of other Manuals.

(v) New orders of unusual length, unless they are of such a nature as to be frequently required for reference, will not be printed in *extenso*, but short notes referring to them will be inserted in the correction slips.

37. Instructions to be observed in preparing Correction Slips to Office
Correction slips to Office Manuals. Manuals are contained in the Chief Commissioner's Circular No. 38-J., dated the 8th August 1896.

38. Verbal orders issued by the Conservator to divisional officers or by the
Verbal instructions. latter to their subordinates, regarding transfers, expenditure, etc., should not be acted on till reduced to writing and formally confirmed, the duty of placing such orders on record devolving on the officer or subordinate receiving the orders.

SECTION XIV.—Pensions, Funds, Privileges, etc.

1. The rules under which selected officers of the Forest Department in
Forest officers studying on the Continent. India may be authorised to study during furlough, at the public expense, forest operations on the Continent of Europe, will be found in Appendix XIII of the Forest Department Code.

2. The Rules under which the Forest Officers' Provident Fund are con-
Forest Officers' Provident Fund. ducted will be found in Appendix XVII of the Forest Department Code.

3. Officers concerned will adopt special measures for the speedy settlement
Speedy settlement of pension claims. of all claims for pension. Article 988 of the Civil Service Regulations permits preliminary verification of an officer's service before he has ceased to be borne on the establishment.

4. Heads of Departments and the officers serving under them have no
Grant of licenses to subordinates to carry arms. authority to grant permits or passes to their subordinates to carry arms not required by them for the execution of their duty, and referred to as such in the exemptions granted under Rule I of the rules issued by the Government of India under the Arms Act.

5. Sportsmen, whether Europeans or others, are
Warning to sportsmen. warned against—

- (i) trespassing on standing crops without the consent of the owners ;
- (ii) shooting peafowl, or other birds or animals, which are looked upon as sacred, in the vicinity of villages or habitations ;
- (iii) shooting domestic animals, such as dogs or pigs, and

- (iv) generally against shooting in the immediate vicinity of villages, temples, and mosques.

6. (i) In the half-yearly lists furnished to the Government of India, dates of appointment in column "Present grade," will be entered as follows:

Classified list of Forest Officers.

(a) In the case of an officer still holding a *provisionally substantive* appointment, the date from which he has held that appointment should be shown in italics.

(b) In the case of an officer who becomes *permanently substantive* after holding a provisionally substantive appointment, the date of his permanent promotion will be entered in roman type, immediately below which should be shown in italics the dates of his provisionally substantive appointment (if any) to the same grade; provided such provisional appointment lasted for more than three consecutive months and was not interrupted by reversion for more than three consecutive months. All appointments made, in the room of officers deputed to foreign service, or holding any of the other posts in question should be clearly shown to be "*provisionally-substantive*" promotions, both in the Gazette notifications and in the Half-yearly Classified Lists of Forest Officers.

(ii) An officer holding a provisionally-substantive appointment under the rules referred to above is virtually holding a substantive appointment, subject only to the liability to reversion on the seconded officer reverting to the line (article 109, Civil Service Regulations); so that for all purposes of promotion he must be treated exactly like a substantive officer, and when he is absent on leave, or officiates in a higher grade, officiating promotion only can be given in his place.

(iii) So, again, if an officer in whose place a provisionally-substantive appointment is held is, on account of absence from his special appointment, reverted to the regular line, the substantive provisional appointment held in his place will then cease to be available under article 109, Civil Service Regulations. But in case of his not being so reverted (as for instance, when he takes short leave), the deputation of another officer to act for him will only give officiating, and *not* provisional substantive, promotion on the list from which that other officer is taken; since two provisionally-substantive appointments cannot be held at once and at the same time in the room of one and the same officer.

SECTION XV.—Public Officers.

1. Officers of the Imperial and Provincial Forest services are gazetted officers within the meaning of the Civil Service Regulations. Members of the Subordinate Forest services are not gazetted officers, even though their appointments are published in the gazette.

Gazetted officers.

2. Whenever a Government official is judicially convicted of any offence, a copy of the decision should be sent to the Head of the Department in which he is employed, in order that such action in the case as may be deemed proper may be taken at once.

Conviction of Government officials.

3. All officers of Government living at the headquarters station of a district and drawing a salary of Rs. 250 and over, whether gazetted or not, are entitled to gratuitous medical attendance at their own residences, from Civil Surgeons. Gazetted officers, except probationers for the Statutory Civil Service and Assistant Superintendents of Police and Executive Officers and Engineers of Her Majesty's Marine drawing less than Rs. 250 a month, are not entitled to the personal attendance of the Civil Surgeon. Officers drawing less than Rs. 250 per mensem are entitled, without payment, to the services of the Assistant Surgeon, or other medical subordinate provided for the purpose, but the attendance of the Civil Surgeon should be given in all cases of emergency or of great danger or difficulty, when applied for by the subordinate medical attendant.

Medical attendance.

4. For general rules regulating the conduct of all Government officers Section V of Chapter V of the Manual of Executive Rules should be consulted.

General rules.

5. The subject of "Memorials and Appeals" is fully dealt with in section XI, Chapter IV of the Manual of Executive Rules.

Memorials and appeals.

SECTION XVI.—Reports, Returns, Indents, etc.

1. The preparation of the abstracts should continue to receive the personal attention of Heads of Departments, and the abstracts should be submitted in a form in which they can be incorporated; as they stand, in the General Administration Report without alterations, or with only such alterations of form as are necessary to adopt

Abstract of Departmental reports.

them to the general scheme of the Report. It should be remembered that the General Administration Report is not published until after the lapse of about a year from the end of the period to which the reports relate. The abstracts, which are intended to give a brief account of the more important points in the administration of each department during the year, should be prepared in narrative style (the past tense, and not the present, being ordinarily employed), and lengthy explanations or comments and argumentative matter should be avoided. It is not sufficient, as has sometimes been done, merely to compress the annual departmental report into a smaller space by cutting out passages of it and pasting them together, as these passages, though suitable in a detailed departmental report, are very frequently unsuitable in language, form, and matter for an abstract which is meant to contain a simple, but clear narrative of the facts published long after the period during which the facts occurred.

Divisional monthly progress reports.

2. Monthly progress reports should be prepared by divisional officers under the following heads :

- (i) Area and boundaries :
 - (a) Areas.
 - (b) Boundaries.
- (ii) Survey and working-plans.
- (iii) Protection and improvement of forests :
 - (a) Establishments.
 - (b) General protection and breaches of forest law.
 - (c) Fire protection, work, and fires.
 - (d) Natural reproduction.
 - (e) Artificial reproduction.
 - (f) Cutting of timbers.
 - (g) Communications and Buildings.
- (iv) Yield and working :
 - (a) Departmental operations.
 - (b) Removal of produce by purchasers. { (i) On trade permits.*
 - (c) Free grants of forest-produce.* { (ii) Waste land assessments.
 - (d) Imports and exports of forest-produce.
- (v) Financial results. Revenue under budget sub-heads.*
- (vi) General remarks.

* Number of permits issued by and revenue collected, respectively, by Civil and Forest Officers will be recorded separately. Revenue under IIa and IIb will be divided into (i) for trade and (ii) by assessments.

3. Part V of Chapter IV of the Forest Department Code deals with Annual reports, and detailed instructions regarding the preparation of the same are issued by the Conservator each year.

4. Divisional officers are required to inspect the range offices of their districts every six months, and to submit a report of each such inspection to the Conservator for information. The inspection report will be under the following heads, in so far as they are applicable to each individual division :

Inspection report of the

*{ range,
revenue station,
depôt,*

headquarters

, division, on the

18 .

1. Date of last inspection.
2. Officer in charge :
 - (a) Name, rank, and pay.
 - (b) Date of assuming charge.
3. Security ; amount to be paid and amount deposited.
4. General state of discipline.
5. Adequacy of establishment.
6. Dress, uniform, equipment, etc.
7. State of uniform accounts.
8. Irregularities.
9. Complaints.
10. Capacity of members.
11. Service books.
12. Buildings and their condition.
13. Furniture.
14. Stores.
15. Date of last complete stocktaking and result of same.
16. Periods of clearing.
17. Neatness.
18. Unserviceable stores.

Forms.

19. Register of yield (Form 2), bound book.
20. Works of reproduction and improvement (Form 3).
21. Statement showing timber marked and books—
 - (a) Selection felling book (bound).
 - (b) Felling book for other trees.
 - (c) Log book.
 - (d) Dead-wood (bound book).
22. Form 4 (receipt in dépôts), bound book.
23. Form 5 (disposals from dépôts), bound book.
24. Form 6 (receipts and issues of timber)—
 - (a) Sale dépôts, loose forms.
 - (b) Forest dépôt form, bound book.
25. Form 7 (sale statement).
26. Form 8 (drift timber operations).
27. Form 9 (sale statement—purchasers), book.
28. Form 10 (outstandings of revenue), book.
29. Form 11 (register of free grants), book.

30. Form No. 12 (bill book). Books in stock, Nos.

31. Form 13 (receipt book), books in stock, Nos.

32. Form 14 (permit book), books in stock, Nos.

33. Trade permits—white paper.

34. Form 14 (firewood permits)—

(a) Books in stock Nos.—green paper.

(b) Books in stock, Nos.—blue paper.

35. „ (Home consumption) books in stock, Nos.

36. Passes for forest-produce books in stock, Nos.

37. Register of receipts and issues of permit books, &c.

Cash accounts.

38. Cash book and result of examination.

39. Cash balance.

40. Measures taken for safe custody of cash.

41. Arrangements for safe transmission of money.

42. Objection statements (Form 35), book.

43. Form 23 (Establishment pay bills), book.

44. Usual date of payment.

45. Complaints of non-payment, if any.

46. Form 33 (Register of revenue and expenditure each forest unit), book.

66. General remarks on results of inspection and personal opinion of capability, etc., of officer in charge.

Demarcation statements.

6. The punctual submission of indents to the Superintendent of Stationery is enjoined, and officers should consider themselves responsible for this and the proper pre-

paration of the indents, which should be entrusted to a responsible ministerial officer, who will see that all requirements are fully ascertained. Strict supervision over storage and expenditure of forms is necessary, and balances of stock must be shown before a new indent is submitted. No applications should be made in excess of actual requirements.

47. Monthly store returns.

48. Form 15 (Half-yearly store return).

49. Half-yearly brass badges and rifles returns.

Office business.

50. Form 39 (Register of cases), book.

51. „ 38 (The keeping of document in cases).

52. „ 41 (Register of receipts and issues of documents), book.

53. „ 40 (Register of books and maps), book.

54. Condition of books and maps.

55. Elephant diaries.

56. Travelling statements.

57. Patrolling statements.

58. Progress reports.

59. Demarcation statements.

60. Fire-protection statements.

61. Establishment book.

62. Forest offence book.

63. Ammunition book.

64. Punctuality in correspondence and submission of accounts and returns.

65. Neatness in keeping office.

5. Demarcation statements should exhibit detail showing external and internal lines separately.

Indents should be totalled in the manner shown below :—

- (i) Total number of forms in sheets ;
- (ii) Ditto contained in books ;
- (iii) Ditto envelopes ;
- (iv) Grand total.

7. Forest indents on the Medical Store Depôt at Calcutta should, after check and signature by the nearest medical officer, be submitted for the countersignature of the Civil Administrative Medical officer, who will transmit them direct to the Medical Store Depôt for compliance.

Medical indents.

8. A copy of Form 15A (seizure and disposal of forest-produce), and not an abstract as ruled in section 112A of the Forest Department Code, should be submitted monthly to the Conservator.

Seizure and disposal of forest-produce.

9. To facilitate the compilation of annual returns, the cubic contents of timber should be recorded in column 4 (number or quantity) of Form No. 9, the number of trees or logs being shown under column 3 (description) with the description of timber.

Purchaser's timber and forest-produce return.

10. Fines imposed on subordinates should appear under head III in monthly progress reports, and no such fines are to be used for reimbursement of losses by Divisional Officers. These reports should also show that permits issued by mauzadars were checked and found to agree with treasury chalans.

Fines and permit inspection to be recorded in monthly progress reports.

11. In the establishment list submitted quarterly, not merely the headquarters of subordinates should be recorded, but the actual charge, such as :

Quarterly establishment list.

- (a) Bilasipara depôt.
- (b) Mohendraganj beat.
- (c) Meklasuti check station.
- (d) Kulsi office assistant, etc.

12. Monthly and periodical returns to be submitted by divisional officers, and dates on which they are to be despatched as follows :

Date of despatch.	Name of return, etc.	Period concerned.	To whom due.
MONTHLY.			
5th	Monthly accounts	Previous month ...	Comptroller General and Conservator.
5th	Waste land timber valuation statement	Ditto ...	Conservator.
7th	Fire protection statement ...	Last quarter of previous month.	Ditto.*
7th ...	Divisional officer's diary	Previous month ...	Conservator, through Deputy Commissioner.
	bill. Ditto travelling allowance		
10th	Demarcation statement	Ditto ...	Conservator.
10th	Progress report	Ditto ...	Ditto through Deputy Commissioner.
10th	Timber valuation statement ...	Ditto ...	Conservator.
14th	Fire protection statement ...	First quarter of current month.	Ditto.*
16th ..	Elephant diary	Previous month ...	Ditto.
21st	Fire protection statement	Second quarter of current month.	Ditto.*
Last day ...	Fire protection statement	Third quarter of current month.	Ditto.*
Ditto ...	Cash balance report and register of cheques.	Current month ...	Comptroller General and Conservator.
PERIODICALLY, ON DATES FIXED.			
January 1st ...	Application, temporary establishments	Succeeding March to February.	Conservator.
„ 1st ...	Certificate of correction of Manuals ...	Quarter ending 30th September.	Ditto.
„ 10th ...	Distribution statement, forest and depôt establishments (permanent and temporary).	As it stands on 1st January	Ditto.
February 1st ...	Summary, revenue and expenditure ...	Previous April to end of January.	Ditto.
	Anticipated revenue and expenditure ...	February and March ...	Ditto.

* October to completion of work for the season.

Date of despatch.	Name of return, etc.	Period concerned.	To whom due.
PERIODICALLY, ON DATES FIXED— <i>continued.</i>			
February 1st ...	Return of Government servants dismissed.	Previous calendar year ...	Conservator.
„ 27th ...	Application, letters of credit ...	April to June ...	Ditto.
March 1st ...	Telegram, latest estimate figures— Totals: Revenue; Expenditure A; Expenditure B; Grand total expenditure.	Current financial year ...	Ditto.
15th ...	Half-yearly statement showing the names of subordinates liable to furnish security.	As it stands on 1st March	Ditto.
April 1st ...	Detailed list, permanent establishment (Forms A in triplicate and B in quadruplicate).	As it stands on 1st April...	Ditto.
„ 1st ...	Certificate of correction of Manuals ...	Quarter ending 31st December.	Ditto.
„ 1st ...	Statement of indebtedness of subordinates.	As ascertained on 1st April	Ditto.
„ 1st ...	Explanation of items of revenue outstanding for over a year.	As it stands on 1st April...	Ditto.
„ 5th ...	Explanation of items under advances recoverable outstanding for over a year.	Ditto ...	Ditto.
„ 10th ...	Distribution statement, forest and depôt establishments (permanent and temporary).	Previous month ...	Ditto.
„ 15th ...	Summary of revenue and expenditure to end of March.	Previous financial year ...	Ditto.
May 15th ...	Half-yearly classified list, rangers ...	As it will stand on 1st July	Ditto.
„ 27th ...	Application, letters of credit ...	July to September ...	Ditto.
June 1st ...	Indents for local forms (in triplicate)...	Twelve months from following 1st February.	Ditto.
July 1st ...	Certificate of correction of Manuals ...	Quarter ending 31st March	Ditto.
„ 1st ...	Annual indent for medicines (in duplicate).	Twelve months from following 1st September.	Principal Medical Officer, Assam, through Civil Surgeon.
„ 10th ...	„ return, stores, tools, and Plant	Previous twelve months to end of June.	Conservator.
„ 10th ...	„ elephant return ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
„ 10th ...	„ indent for elephant gear ...	To make gear complete on following 1st October.	Ditto.
„ 10th ...	„ brass badge and rifle return ...	Previous twelve months to end of June.	Ditto.

Date of despatch.	Nomenclature.	Period concerned.	To whom due.
PERIODICALLY, ON DATES FIXED—concluded.			
July 10th ...	Annual indent for arms and ammunition.	Twelve months from following 1st October.	Conservator.
" 10th ...	" report of balance of permit and pass books in stock.	As on 30th June ...	Ditto.
" 10th ...	Distribution statement, forest and depot establishments (permanent and temporary).	As it stands on 1st July ...	Ditto.
August 1st ...	Annual forest report and returns ...	Forest year ending 30th June.	Ditto.
" 15th ...	" indent for mathematical instruments.	Twelve months from following 1st October.	Ditto.
" 15th ...	" indent for prescribed forms (in duplicate).	Twelve months from following 1st January.	Ditto.
" 27th ...	Application, letters of credit ...	October to December ...	Ditto.
September 1st ...	Annual indent for stationery (in triplicate).	December to November following.	Ditto.
" 1st ...	Budget estimates ...	Actuals, previous year; revised estimate, current, and budget estimate succeeding financial year.	Ditto.
" 1st ...	Annual plan of operations ...	Current forest year ...	Ditto.
" 15th ...	Half-yearly statement showing the names of subordinates liable to furnish security.	As it stands on 1st September.	Ditto.
October 1st ...	Forms 2 and 3, and annual abstract in Form 33 for all forests for which working plans exist (in duplicate).	Previous forest year ...	Ditto.
" 1st ...	Certificate of correction of Manuals ...	Quarter ending 30th June	Ditto.
" 10th ...	Distribution statement of forest and depot establishments (permanent and temporary).	As it stands on 1st October	Ditto.
November 15th ...	Half-yearly classified list, rangers ...	As it will stand on 1st January.	Ditto.
" 27th ...	Application, letters of credit ...	January to March ...	Ditto.
December 1st ...	Indent for copies of Acts and Regulations	Next calendar year ...	Ditto.

Indents for maps from the Forest Survey Office should be submitted by the Conservator to the Inspector of Forests as ordered in Revenue and Agricultural Circular No. 9-F, [paragraph 6 (4)], dated 2nd July 1890.

13. Economic products, whether plants or not, should be described by

Nomenclature of economic products.

the scientific name adopted in the Official Dictionary of Economic Products of India, either used alone,

or written in brackets, after any English or Vernacular term which may be employed.

14. In ordering marking hammers, in addition to either the letters F D, or S, a divisional letter with serial numbers is also

Marking hammers.

necessary. Such hammers being lost or stolen, and information circulated, illegal use of the same can be detected, and action taken on such detection. To meet such losses or thefts, new hammers indented for should not bear the same serial number as those lost or stolen. A register for record should be kept up. The distinctive letters for each division should be :

C. Cachar.

Sy. Sylhet.

G. Goálpara.

K. Kámrúp.

D. Darrang.

N. Nowgong.

S. Sibságar.

L. Lakhimpur.

Kh. Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

Gh. Gáo Hills.

SECTION XVII.—Reserved and unclassed State Forests.

1. The rights of Government and private persons to or over any land or forest-produce in forests declared reserved or protected under Section 34 of the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878, and notified in Notifications Nos. 5 and 6, dated the 17th October 1878, previous to such declaration were inquired into, settled, and recorded in a manner which the Chief Commissioner deemed sufficient.

Settlements made previous to the introduction of the Forest Act, VII of 1878.

2. Prevention of encroachments of cultivation on Government reserved forests is a primary duty, and whether any were made or not during a year should invariably be stated in annual reports.

Encroachments on reserve boundaries.

3. A draft notification in the form appended to this Rule must, subject to such minor modifications as local circumstances may render expedient or necessary, accompany every application to the Government of India for sanction to disforest.

Disforesting of forest areas.

In all such applications it should be stated whether or not the local Revenue and Forest authorities agree to the disforestation proposed; and in the event of any objection to such disforestation being urged, its nature should be recorded for the information of the Government of India.

The advisability of submitting with the application a map illustrating the proposals made should be considered in each case by the Local Government or Administration concerned.

DRAFT NOTIFICATION.

The Chief Commissioner (with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council) is hereby pleased to declare, under the provisions of section of that the area specified below, which, in Notification No. , dated the , was declared to be reserved forest under section of that , shall cease to be reserved forest, with effect from the :

Specification of land disforested.

Name of reserve or portion of reserve disforested.	District.	Pargana.	Mauza.	Area in acres.

Boundaries.

Brief description.

Reasons for disforestation.

The Government of India will be constrained to return, for correction, any application to sanction exclusions from reserved forests, where the description of boundaries is inaccurate or not sufficiently detailed or precise.

4. Cases arise in which it may be desirable to publish, by means of a fresh notification, amended descriptions of the boundaries of forest reserves already notified under Section ^{19 of the Indian Forest Act} _{17 of the Assam Forest Regulation} or under other forest enactments. It has been ascertained that there is no legal objection to this course, if the fresh notification merely provides for the substitution of a more exact and definite description of the boundaries for that which was originally notified, and which, though purporting to describe the boundaries as they existed at the time, has subsequently become incorrect or proved to be open to misconstruction. The appended form of notification is considered suitable for such cases, and may be employed whenever necessary.

The procedure permitted in the foregoing paragraph must not be held to extend to any such alteration of the boundaries on the ground as would involve either the inclusion of new areas or the exclusion of any lands which have been declared by the previous notification to be reserved forest. Such changes require either a new settlement of the additions it is proposed to make, or, in the case of disforestation, the previous sanction of the Government of India.

NOTIFICATION.

With reference to Notification No. _____, dated _____, under section _____ of the { Indian Forest Act (VII of 1878) } at page _____ of the Government Gazette of the _____, declaring the forest to be a reserved forest, _____ is pleased to direct that the following amended and more accurate description of the boundaries of the said forest be substituted for the description contained in the said Notification :

* * * * *

5. In submitting proposals to reserve areas adjoining tea estates, the owners of such estates should be given the option of applying for extended areas under the rules in force. Such applications will receive consideration if—

Procedure in proposing to reserve areas adjoining tea estates, etc.

- (a) valuable forest land is not thus excised from the proposed reserve,
- (b) if proposed boundaries are not rendered irregular and difficult to control, and
- (c) if no danger exists of blocking a right-of-way to the proposed reserve.

In the form in which proposals to reserve areas are submitted, any areas excised to suit tea estates should be shown with details under head “(8), list of villages, etc.” Particular attention must be paid to the necessity of preserving free communication and traffic with reserved or proposed reserve areas, and where such may be endangered, the Deputy Commissioner’s attention should be drawn to the fact, so that a Government right-of-way may be maintained.

6. The heads under which information is required when proposing

Form for proposal to reserve areas.

to reserve forest areas are as follows :

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| (1) Situation and area. | (7) Lines of export. |
| (2) Boundaries. | (8) List of villages or private lands within the forest boundaries. |
| (3) Description of soil. | (9) Rights of surrounding population. |
| (4) Description of forest. | (10) Maps. |
| (5) Timber depôts. | (11) Working plan. |
| (6) Timber markets. | |

7. Applications for the acquirement of land for public purposes by private arrangement should be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, to be forwarded to the Chief

Acquirement of land.

Commissioner, for sanction, through the Conservator.

The procedure to be followed under the Land Acquisition Act is laid down in section I, Chapter II, of the Manual of Executive Rules.

8. Copies of all Government notifications constituting reserved forest or modifying (by exclusion or otherwise) the boundaries of such forests, together with indicative tracings or sketch maps, on which approximate latitude

Notifications of changes to be sent to the Superintendent of Forest Surveys.

and longitude should be recorded, should be supplied to the Superintendent of Forest Surveys by the Conservator for the purpose of enabling that officer to make the requisite additions or alterations in the corresponding maps of his office.

9. With a view to prevent complaints of damage being done in Government reserved forests on the passage through such forests of troops and camp followers of any regiment or detachment, it has been arranged with the military authorities that at least two weeks' notice of the date of marching and the route to be followed shall, except in cases of sudden emergency, be given by the Officers Commanding to the Divisional Forest-Officer, with a view to enable the latter to depute a forest guard or other official to accompany the troops, and to point out to them which trees and saplings or other forest-produce may be cut and which may not be cut. No permission will, however, be needed to collect dead-firewood.

It should be understood that no clearances whatsoever should be made in Government reserved forest, and that the places of encampment should be restricted to the grounds provided for that purpose.

10. Notes to be strictly confined to the result of actual experience, should in the interests of forest conservancy be compiled under the following heads :

Compilation of notes for forest purposes.

(i) Creation and consolidation of forest estates including—

- (a) Forest settlements.
- (b) Demarcation.
- (c) Surveys.

(ii) Administration of forest estates including—

- (a) Protection in all its branches (with special reference to the various systems of fire protection).
- (b) Sylviculture in all its branches, including the different methods of forest regeneration, as well as improvement fellings and all artificial measures adopted to effect or assist reproduction.
- (c) Methods of exploitation, transport, and disposal of forest-produce.
- (d) Communications and buildings and other engineering works.
- (e) Systems of organised working.

(iii) Financing the forest estates.

(iv) Local needs of the people and the best method of satisfying them as regards—

- (a) Timber and fuel.
- (b) Fodder.
- (c) Grazing.
- (d) Minor forest-produce.

(v) General administration referring to all matters connected with establishments, etc.

(vi) Injuries done by insects, fungi, etc.

(vii) Rates paid for forest work.

(viii) Miscellaneous.

11. Subordinates marking timber for fellings, or the converted results of such, must make all the necessary entries in the

Timber marking in the Forest.

timber marking statement and sign and date the same, and if such entries are discovered not to be the result of *bond fide* marking, the subordinate concerned will be liable to criminal prosecution.

12. The following trees in addition to those declared reserved trees

Trees not to be felled as poles or converted into firewood and charcoal.

should not be felled as poles or saplings for sale at the one-anna rate, nor should they be felled for

conversion into firewood or charcoal, except under special orders of the Divisional Officer:—

Sisu.
Sapa (all varieties).
Poma "
Hingori "
Kathal.
Jamu.
Hullock.
Gohora.
Sonalu.
Hilika.
Makai.
Osai.
Roghu.
Am.
Jutili.
Serang.

Bucklai.
Ramgach.
Kochan.
Sutiana.
Simul.
Hollong.
Ahay.
Bisjang.
Sasi.
Gulal.
Tailo.
Kadam.
San.
Seronguti.
Amari.
Bual.

Saul kuri.

Barthekra.
Huktapatia.
Bhe.
Sakalang.
Usaquang.
Bellu.
Burramtoori.
Kujithehra.
Amdali.
Loajam.
Jupong.
Ekuhea.
Moshal.
Tepur.
Buddai soona.
Tuttcaly.

13. Deadwood, squared or adzed down, after extraction of sapwood, must be considered as converted timber, and be charged for accordingly.

Deadwood.

14. Terms for, and classification of fellings, with a description of the

Classification of fellings.

same are as follows:

Regeneration fellings, made with the view of replacing the existing crop of trees by a new crop. These are classified in accordance with method of treatment as follows:

- (i) *Regular fellings*, whereby it is sought to produce, by natural means from self-sown seedlings, a new crop regular in its constitution. Such fellings may be "preparatory," "secondary," etc., or "final," and all but the last may be either "close" or "open."
- (ii) *Selection fellings*, which consist in the methodical removal of the exploitable trees in a forest, either singly or in groups with a view to producing, by natural means from self-sown seedlings, a new crop irregular in its constitution.
- (iii) *Coppice fellings*, of which the object is to produce a new crop composed of shoots and suckers from the stools and roots of the trees felled. Such fellings may either be "clean," in which case "simple coppice" is produced; or a certain number of trees may be reserved as "standards" over the coppice, in which case the resulting crop is called "coppice with standards."
- (iv) *Clean fellings*, made with the view of restocking the area felled by planting or sowing it.

Amelioration fellings, made with a view of improving the condition of the existing crop. These include :

- (v) *Improvement fellings*, which consist in the cutting out of ill-grown or injured trees, or trees of inferior species, with a view to their being replaced by sound coppice or by seedlings of a better kind, or in order that the blanks so caused may be planted up.
- (vi) *Thinnings*, which consist in the removal, from an immature crop, of stems of either the principal or accessory species in order to give the crop of the future more room for unconfined growth.
- (vii) *Unclassed fellings* include the unmethodical removal of trees by right-holders or grantees, or by purchasers under permits or trade licenses.

15. Drift wood is the property of Government until the contrary is

proved, but, where not worth more than the cost of collection, divisional officers may use their discretion in exempting such from payment of royalty. Pieces of second-class kinds less than two feet in girth and five feet in length should be allowed free, as should collections made by prisoners in jails. These orders refer to cases where drift wood is collected for trade purposes only.

Rates of royalty to be levied on forest-produce from reserved forests.

16. The rates of royalty fixed on all forest-produce extracted from reserved forests are as follows :

Schedule of Rates of Royalty leviable on timber removed from Reserved Forests.

Description of forest produce.			RATES AND LOCALITIES.		Remarks.
			Assam Valley divisions and North Cachar Hills, also Naga Hills, Khasi and Jaintia Hills, and Garo Hills divisions.	Cachar and Sylhet divisions.	
1. Every standing sal tree	Rs. 10 each, or 6 annas per cubic foot.	No sal or other first class tree to be felled under 4½ feet in girth.
2. " " sam "	Rs. 6 each	In the Garo Hills, sam trees are rated at Rs. 10 each.
3. Sal logs (dressed) 7 feet in girth	6 per log	Intermediate girths to be charged according to class nearest represented. Middle girth to be taken in every case. Whole bole of each tree to be extracted, as far as can be reasonably expected. The average cost per tree, over the aggregate amount charged by the Government, will be charged for every tree purchased for conversion into a boat.
4. " " " 6 " 6 inches in girth	...	...	" 5 "	.....
5. " " " 6 " 0 " "	...	...	" 4 "	.....
6. " " " 5 " 6 " "	...	...	" 3-8 "	.....
7. " " " 5 " 0 " "	...	...	" 2-12 "	.....
8. " " " 4 " 6 " "	...	...	" 2-6 "	.....
9. " " " 4 " 0 " "	...	...	" 1-12 "	.....
10. " " " 3 " 6 " "	...	...	" 1-6 "	.....
11. " " " 3 " 0 " "	...	...	" 1 "	.....
12. " " " 2 " 6 " "	...	...	" 0-10 "	.....
13. " " " 2 " 0 " "	...	...	" 0-8 "	.....
14. " " " 1 " 6 " "	...	...	" 0-4 "	.....
15. " " " 1 " 0 " "	...	...	" 0-2 "	.....
16. " " " any length or girth	...	...	" 0-5 per c. ft.	.....
17. " scantlings "	...	...	" 0-3 "	.....
18. " sleepers, broad gauge...	...	...	" 1-4 each	.....
19. " " metre gauge	" 0-5 "	Whole available timber in each tree to be utilised as far as can be reasonably expected. Average cost per tree, on terms explained above, not to exceed Rs. 10.

Description of forest produce.	RATES AND LOCALITIES.			Remarks.
	Assam Valley divisions and North Cachar Hills also Naga Hills, Khasi and Jaintia Hills, and Garo Hills divisions.	Cachar and Sylhet divisions.		
20. First-class tree, sleepers, broad gauge	Rs. 0.12 each	....	
21. " " " metre "	" 0.5 "	....	
22. Second, " " broad "	" 0.3-9 "	....	
23. " " " metre "	" 0.1-6 "	....	
24. First " " logs "	" 0.4-0 per c. ft.	....	
25. Second, " " "	" 0.1-0 "	....	
26. First " " scantlings	" 0.5-0 "	....	
27. Second, " " "	" 0.1-3 "	....	
28. Every standing first-class tree and sisu	" 8 each or 4 annas per cubic foot.	....		First-class trees correspond with "reserved" trees in unclassified State forests. In the Abhaypur reserve in the Sibsagar district, and in the reserves of the Naga Hills district, first-class trees shall only be charged at Rs. 4 each.
29. " " second " "	" 2 each or 1 anna per cubic foot.	....		Not to exceed 1 foot in girth.
30. " " " pole or sapling	One anna each	....		The royalty payable on the tree from which it is cut.
31. Each boat or dugout	.....	....
32. The following kinds of timber in the rough :—jarul, nageswar, sam or cham, goudroi.	.....	4 annas per cubic foot.		
33. Kurta, rata, poma, joki, tallo, shundi, karal, jam and jhalna	.....	3 " " "		
34. All other kinds	.....	1 anna " "		
35. Every foot of converted timber (except sleepers)	.....	Above rates with an addition of 25 per cent.		
36. Each chimra or rafter	.....	2 annas each		Must be a pole under 2 feet in girth.

NOTE.—In case it is proposed (for thinnings, etc.) to get rid of green poles and saplings or crooked trees, etc., special rates should be proposed in each case for the Conservators' sanction.

Schedule of Rates of Royalty on all dead wood sold to purchasers from Reserved Forests in the Assam Valley divisions (except Goalpára) also in the Naga Hills, Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills divisions, and in the Cachar and Sylhet divisions, sanctioned by the Conservator of Forests, in his Circular No. 75, dated the 22nd March 1895.

Measurements.		Timber.			Remarks.
Middle girth.	Length.	Sál.	Sisu.	Other trees.	
		<i>Rs. a. p.</i>		<i>Rs. a. p.</i>	
Under 2 feet ...	Under 12 feet...	5 0 0 per score	.....	.....
„ 3 „ ...	„ 12 „ ...	10 0 0 „	.....	.....
„ 2 „ ...	Any ...	0 8 0 each ...	.....	0 6 0 each.	
2 feet and under 3 feet.	„ ...	1 0 0 „ ...	.....	0 12 0 „	
3 feet to 4 feet 6 inches.	„ ...	0 6 0 per cubic foot.	.....	0 4 0 per cubic foot.	

Schedule of Rates of Royalty on all dead wood sold to purchasers from Reserved Forests in the Goalpára division, sanctioned by the Conservator of Forests in his letter No 42, dated the 17th April 1895.

Measurements.		Timber.			
Middle girth.	Length.	Sál.	Sisu.	Other trees.	
		<i>Rs. a. p.</i>	<i>Rs. a. p.</i>	<i>Rs. a. p.</i>	
Under 2 feet ...	Under 18 feet	7 8 0 per score	7 8 0 per score.	7 8 0 per score.	
„ 3 „ ...	„ 18 „	15 0 0 „	15 0 0 „	15 0 0 „	
„ 2 „ ...	Any ...	0 8 0 each ...	0 8 0 each ...	0 6 0 each.	
Between 2 and 3 feet.	„ ...	1 0 0 „ ...	1 0 0 „ ...	0 12 0 „	
Over 3 feet ...	„ ...	0 4 0 per cubic foot.	0 3 0 per cubic foot.	0 4 0 per cubic foot.	

Schedule of Rates of Royalty leviable on firewood, charcoal and minor produce removed from reserved forests.

Description of forest-produce.	RATES AND LOCALITIES.		REMARKS.
	Assam Valley Divisions, and North Cachar Hills, also in the Naga Hills, Khási and Jaintia Hills, and Gáo Hills Divisions.	Cachar and Sylhet Divisions.	
	R. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Fuel	0 0 6 per maund	0 0 6 per maund	Fuel is sold at 3 pies per maund in the Goalpara, Sibságar, Lakhimpur, Khási and Jaintia Hills, and Gáo Hills divisions.
2. Monthly fuel permit ...	1 0 0 each ...	1 0 0 each ...	Three cubic feet of stacked wood to be reckoned as a maund. Extraction of dead-wood windfalls and derelicts only of all trees, but special permission must be endorsed on the permit if green wood may be felled and utilised, in which case it must be recorded that no reserved trees may be felled without special and previous marking. Special rates may be suggested for Conservator's sanction for large consumers.
3. Annual " " ...	9 0 0 " ...	9 0 0 " ...	
4. Charcoal	0 2 0 per maund	0 2 0 per maund	Nine cubic feet to be counted as one maund.
5. Bamboos (all varieties)...	.....	2 8 0 ,, 1,000	Only in the Cachar district.
6. " muli, pecha and dalu.	.....	2 8 0 ,, 1,000	" " Sylhet "
7. " tengra ...	.....	1 4 0 ,, 1,000	" " " "
8. " bhaluka ...	3 0 0 per 100 ...	.....
9. " jati ...	2 0 0 ,, 100 ...	.....
10. " all other kinds	1 0 0 ,, 100 ...	.....
11. Canes, all varieties ...	0 12 0 ,, 100 bundles.	6 4 0 per 100 bundles.	A bundle consists of 10 pieces in all districts except those of the Surma Valley, where it contains 76 pieces.
12. Thatching-grass ...	0 4 0 ,, 100 c. ft. or bundles.	0 4 0 per 100 c. ft. or bundles.	The rough outside measurements are taken to calculate cubic contents and each bundle is limited to a circumference of 18 inches.
13. Agar	1 8 0 ,, basket	1 8 0 per basket	A basket should measure 18" x 18" x 16" = 3 cubic feet or weigh 15 seers of chips.
14. Reeds	0 0 6 ,, bundle	0 0 6 ,, bundle	A bundle not to exceed 2 feet in circumference.
15. Leaves (pati) ...	.....	0 10 0 ,, 1,000 dals.	A dal not to exceed 18 inches in circumference.
16. " toko and teng ...	0 10 0 per 1,000 leaves.	.....	In Lakhimpur only.
17. Gurkati permits, Gáo...	1 0 0 each ...	.....	In the Gáo Hills only.
18. " " foreign	2 0 0 " ...	.....	" " "
19. Stone ballast ...	0 8 0 per 1,000 c. ft. stacked.	0 8 0 per 1,000 c. ft. stacked.	
20. Lime	0 2 0 per maund	0 2 0 per maund	Weighed at kiln.

17. Instead of actual weighment, the amount of charcoal may, if preferred, be determined by measurement, at the ratio of nine cubic feet to the maund.

Charcoal.

18. Ordinary work should be conducted on the contract system, and, where this is not possible, a system of "task" work should be adopted, and only in exceptional cases should these rules be deviated from.

Labour.

19. The Conservator is authorised to import coolies for the use of the Forest Department, Assam, whenever it appears advantageous to do so.

Power to import labour.

20. Forests liable to be burnt, not subjected to any special system of protection from fire, and which escape burning, should have their estimated areas recorded in each year's annual report.

Forest areas escaping fires.

21. A skeleton map of each forest liable to fire should be divided into squares, representing areas of not more than a square mile each, by lines running due north and south and east and west, so that the locality in which a fire occurred in any one year may be recorded on the proportionate portion of its square; this should be done by means of parallel lines and dots, thus :

Record of fire-protection results.

Fired in 1886	...	...	...	...	horizontal lines.
Fired in 1887	...	...	...	...	vertical lines.
Fired in 1888	...	...	...	...	right diagonal lines.
Fired in 1889	...	...	...	...	left diagonal lines.
Fired in 1890	...	...	...	...	dots.

The skeleton tracing being placed over the map of the forest, on which the configuration of the ground, compartment lines, paths, etc., are shown, it is comparatively easy for a Forest-Officer who had visited the scene of the fire to fix its locality, with fair accuracy, on the tracing. A new tracing of each forest or group of forests liable to fire will be prepared for use for each term of five years in all divisions of the circle, the system being adopted with effect from the same years so that the same signs may be used everywhere for indicating areas fired in any one year. The tracings will be filed at the end of the term, and in every case in which a fire has occurred during the year the divisional officer will send his tracings to the Conservator at the close of the fire season, so that he may record the results of fire protection

on the copies that are filed in his own office. Each tracing will have prominently recorded on it a heading, "Fire-record of the forest for the five years 18—to 18—," and a reference describing the signs denoting areas fired in each year of the quinquennium.

In every case in which no fire occurs during the year, a note to that effect will be recorded on the margin of the fire-record tracing of the forest concerned by the officer in charge under his initials; this will be useful as a check against the neglect of keeping up the fire-record, and its omission will be noticed by the Conservator on his inspecting the office.

To explain the system of map records of results of fire-protection, the following remarks are recorded :

A skeleton tracing will be made from the map showing the forest on the largest scale available. The tracing may conveniently be divided into squares of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to the side; if the map happens to be on the scale of 2 inches = 1 mile, each square will represent $\frac{1}{16}$ th of a square mile or 40 acres; if 1 inch = 1 mile each $\frac{1}{2}$ inch square would represent 160 acres. On this tracing the divisional officer will each year plot (as accurately as his observations allow) the area burnt in the manner above indicated, and, even if no fraction of a square is recorded, the record will be approximately accurate.

A similar "fire-record" tracing being kept in the Conservator's office, and the squares on all tracings being marked along the top of the squares *a, b, c, d, etc.*, and down the side 1, 2, 3, 4, etc., the position of any given square in the body of the tracing can be described by a letter and number thus: "*d-4*," which will denote the square in the 4th column from the left and in the 4th row from the top.

With the use of the lines and dots above indicated, a glance at the fire-record tracing will show that a certain portion of forest had been fired in a certain year, and had since escaped fire or not, as the case may be. The specimen given below indicates (say) that in the year 1887, $6 \times 40 = 240$ acres were burnt; that in 1888, $4 \times 40 = 160$ acres were also fired, consisting of 80 acres of the area fired in 1887 and 80 acres of new forest that had not been fired since prior to 1886: while in 1890, $8 \times 40 = 320$ acres were fired, which included :

					Acres.
Fired in 1887 and in 1888	...	...	...	...	80
Fired in 1887	...	...	...	...	160
Not fired since prio. to 1886	...	...	...	...	80
			Total	...	320

Fire record tracing of the forest, 1886 to 1890.
Scale 2 inches = 1 mile.

	a	b	c	d	e	f				
1							Area fired in.	Acres.	Range officer.	Divisional officer.
2							1886 ...	...	I. K., ranger...	A.B.C., Deputy Conservator.
3							1887 ...	240	Ditto ...	Ditto.
4							1888 ...	160	Ditto ...	Ditto.
5							1889 ...	...	Ditto ...	D.E.F., Assistant Conservator.
6							1890 ...	320	Ditto ...	Ditto.

Acres.

Not fired in 1886—A. B. C., Deputy Conservator.	Fired once ...	160
Not fired in 1889—D. E. F. Assistant Conservator.	Fired twice ...	160
	Fired thrice ...	80

One very decided advantage of this system is that, taking as an example the figures given above, the record shows that the actual area burnt over in the forest in the five years 1886 to 1890 was 400 acres only. As reported now in the annual returns, this will have appeared as $240 + 160 + 320 = 720$ acres, or nearly twice the area actually touched by fire.

22. The attention of Deputy Commissioners and Police Officers has been drawn by the Chief Commissioner to the provisions of the Assam Forest Regulation, and they should take steps to have the substance of section 25 (b) and (c) of the Regulation brought to the notice of proprietors and holders of land, including grantees of waste land, in their districts. There are practically no cases in which during the dry season a forest connected directly, or by other forest land, with a reserved forest, can be fired without endangering the safety of the reserved forest, unless adequate precautions are taken for preventing the spread of the fire. The provision of the law contained in section 25, clauses (b) and (c), of the Forest Regulation would accordingly apply.

As regards the obligation to report the commission of forest offences, attention has been directed to section 74 of the Forest Regulation; the different classes of persons mentioned therein should be informed of the duties and obligations imposed by that section.

23. The traffic registrar of Dhubri is to record, on behalf of the Forest Department, the different descriptions of timber and forest-produce sent down. This he is to do under the orders of the Conservator of Forests conveyed to him through the Deputy Commissioner of Goálpara.

Registration of forest-produce at Dhubri.

24. The utilisation of cameras in the obtaining of photographs of selected areas for record for scientific purposes, and conditions whereby cameras may be obtained and photographic records furnished, are treated of in the Inspector General's Circular No. 8 of 9th September 1892 and 9 of 11th May 1895. Negatives of forest photographs will be stored at the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun, where one set of private contributions may also be kept, for facility of sale. Officers are invited to contribute negatives taken with private cameras.

Cameras for forest purposes.

25. In preparing forest administration and other reports, the correct scientific nomenclature of all plants mentioned should be adopted, but in the case of generally-known trees, plants and products, it will suffice to give the scientific equivalent once or twice, when first alluded to.

Nomenclature of plants.

26. Passages in periodical reports and other publications, containing information regarding the economic products of India, which would be of interest or value to the commercial community, should be brought to the notice of the Reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India at Calcutta, with a view to his communicating the information to the various Chambers of Commerce and other commercial associations concerned.

Supply of information on economic products.

27. Correspondence passing between Deputy Commissioners and the Conservators of Forests, except returns and explanations connected therewith, will be transmitted through the Commissioner. The Commissioner will, besides, exercise such powers and control as may be vested in him by the Forest Regulation, or by rules published thereunder.

Connection of the Commissioner with the Forest Department.

28. (i) The Chief Forest-Officer in each district shall be the assistant to the Deputy Commissioner of that district as regards forest matters, retaining at the same time his subordination to the Conservator of Forests, who is the head of the depart-

Relations of Forest-Officers to District-Officers.

ment; all operations in the unclassed State forests shall be placed under his control, as well as those in the reserved forests; and all correspondence on general and administrative subjects connected with forest management between him and the Conservator shall pass through the Deputy Commissioner.

(ii) For the present, Forest-Officers will be appointed as follows :

The officer in charge of the Gáro Hills forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of the Gáro Hills.

The officer in charge of the Goálpára forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of Goálpára.

The officer in charge of the Kámráp forests and the Jirang forests on the northern skirts of the Khási Hills district, will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioners of the Kámráp and Khási and Jaintia Hills.

The officer in charge of the Darrang forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of Darrang.

The officer in charge of the Nowgong forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong.

The officer in charge of the Sibságar and Nambor forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioners of Sibságar and Nága Hills.

The officer in charge of the Lakhimpur forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur.

The officer in charge of the Cachar forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar.

The officer in charge of the Sylhet forests will be subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet.

(iii) All orders will be conveyed from and references made to the Conservator of Forests on the following principles :—

(a) All correspondence on the subjects mentioned under " A " of the table below should pass under flying docket, from the Conservator, through the Deputy Commissioner, to the Forest-Officer, and *vice versa*.

(b) All correspondence on the subjects mentioned in column " B " of that table should be carried on direct between the Conservator and the Forest Officer, and *vice versa*.

(iv) Ordinarily, the Deputy Commissioner, in the case of correspondence included in column "A," will, after perusal, simply record his signature under the word "forwarded" in the flying docket. He may, however, when he deems it necessary, record his remarks on any communication addressed to the Conservator by his departmental subordinates; and he may return to the Conservator for reconsideration any communication addressed by the latter to the Forest Divisional Officer, communicating instructions or orders, recording the grounds on which he solicits such reconsideration.

(v) In the event of the Deputy Commissioner and the Conservator differing on any matter in connection with correspondence passing through the Deputy Commissioner's office, should the difference not be removed by mutual references, the point, with the correspondence out of which it arose, should be submitted, if in the Assam Valley districts, to the Commissioner, if in the other districts, to the Chief Commissioner. Should the Conservator in any case be dissatisfied with the Commissioner's decision, he may refer the case to the Chief Commissioner for final orders.

(vi) The Conservator is to be the controlling authority in all matters of patronage in the subordinate branches, and in all matters of departmental discipline.

(vii) The responsibility of the Conservator will remain unimpaired. He should be kept regularly informed of all orders issued on forest matters within his circle by Deputy Commissioners, the Commissioner of the Assam Valley Districts, and the Government; he should be made acquainted with all correspondence which passes between Deputy Commissioners and Forest Officers, and, as a rule, he will be consulted on all forest matters which come before Government.

TABLE referred to in paragraph (iii).

Subjects of correspondence in the Forest Department, showing under head A the subjects, correspondence regarding which should go through the Deputy Commissioner's office; and B the subjects, correspondence about which need not do so.

A.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Acts and orders. | 7. Arms, shooting, and game. |
| 2. Administration, working plans, reserves. | 8. Budget (first copy for information). |
| 3. Arboriculture. | 9. Cases, civil. |
| 4. Agriculture and horticulture. | 10. Cases, criminal. |
| 5. Annual reports. | 11. Cases, revenue. |
| 6. Appointment of foresters or forest rangers. | 12. Conservancy (fire). |

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Dispensaries. 14. Demarcation and surveys. 15. Elephants. 16. Establishments. 17. Exhibitions and specimens. 18. Ferries. 19. Free gifts. 20. Groves. 21. Irrigation. 22. Land for public purposes. 23. Leases and lessees' security. 24. Leave (gazetted officers'). 25. Pay, allowances, and deputation of foresters or forest rangers. 26. Police. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27. Pounds. 28. Powers of officers. 29. Promotions of foresters or forest rangers. 30. Roads and communications. 31. Refunds and remissions. 32. Rights and privileges. 33. Rewards. 34. Rents and rates. 35. Statistics of all sorts. 36. Special commission. 37. Transfer of charge (gazetted officers'). 38. Waif and stray forest-produce. 39. Waste land. |
|--|--|

B.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accounts. 2. Appointments of officers below the grade of forester. 3. Applications. 4. Buildings. 5. Books. 6. Carriage. 7. Contracts (works). 8. Contingencies. 9. Deputation and special allowances of officers below the grade of forester. 10. Estimates. 11. Fines and forfeitures. 12. Forms. 13. Fuel. 14. Furniture. 15. Gratuities and pensions. 16. Imprest. 17. Inspection. 18. Leave (subordinates'). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19. Letters of credit. 20. Miscellaneous (Forestry, A.—Conservancy and Works). 21. Pay and allowances of officers below the grade of forester. 22. Printing and presses. 23. Promotions of officers below the grade of forester. 24. Railway (contract, fuel and timber). 25. Returns (other than those included in statistics). 26. Records. 27. Saw machinery. 28. Sales. 29. Stationery. 30. Service books. 31. Tents and equipage. 32. Timber depôts. 33. Transfers (subordinates'). 34. Valuation surveys. |
|---|--|

It addition to subjects included in the above Schedule A, matters affecting the Deputy Commissioner personally or the public should pass through him.

29. The term "Unclassed State forests and waste lands" was substituted for "district forests" under instructions received from the Government of India in January 1888.

Unclassed State forests.

Management of unclassified State forests.

30. The management of unclassified State forests is regulated by the following rules:

(i) These rules supersede all rules and orders previously issued by the Chief Commissioner or the Conservator of Forests, relating to any of the matters therein dealt with. It should be specially noticed that no royalty, duty, or fees can be levied from any person in respect of Unclassed State forests or land at the disposal of Government in the districts of the Assam Valley, or in Sylhet or Cachar, which are not authorized by Rules having the force of law issued under the Forest Regulation.

(ii) Referring to the Rules regulating the powers of Forest-Officers, published under Notification No. 3959-R., dated the 23rd September 1896, it should be understood that the Divisional Forest-Officer is the assistant of the Deputy Commissioner generally in all forest matters, and will be in general charge of all forests in the districts comprised in his division, whether reserved or village forests constituted under the Assam Forest Regulation, or Unclassed State forests except in cases in which the Chief Commissioner otherwise specially directs. All books, registers, and other records relating to forests will be kept by the Divisional Forest-Officer for the Deputy Commissioner. The register of forest receipts prescribed in Articles 442 and 444, Chapter 23 of the Civil Account Code, will be submitted by the Treasury Officer, through the Divisional Forest-Officer, to the Conservator. The appointment of all forest subordinate establishments above the grade of forest guard, and the posting of all forest subordinates, including guards, rests with the Conservator of Forests (paragraph 32, Forest Department Code).

(iii) Referring to the Rules relating to Unclassed State forests, it is necessary to point out that, although the Divisional Forest-Officer is in charge of such forests, all district and sub-divisional officers are also responsible for supervising the working of the Unclassed State Forest Rules within their districts and sub-divisions, and for seeing that no avoidable discontent is caused thereby among the people. The following rule (Rule 8, Chapter IV, Section I, page 89) is reproduced from the Manual of Executive Rules and Orders in force in Assam:

The Forest-Officer attached to a sub-division shall, in all matters connected with unclassified State forests, work under the control of the sub-divisional officer in the same way as an Inspector of Police attached to a sub-division does. The sub-divisional officer is responsible for seeing that the rules regarding home consumption permits and all similar rules are thoroughly understood by the people and are properly worked.

Where the head-quarters sub-division of a district is not in charge of any sub-divisional officer specially appointed to hold charge, the Forest-Officer of the sub-division will, in all matters connected with unclassified State forests, work under the control of the Deputy Commissioner.

(iv) In the Assam Valley districts tahsildárs and mauzadárs will be in immediate charge of, and responsible for the management of, and due observance of the rules relating to unclassified State forests within their jurisdictions under the orders of the Divisional Forest-Officer. All breaches of the rules relating to such forests must be reported by them to the Divisional Forest-Officer. They are also responsible for making rules issued under the Assam Forest Regulation known to all persons concerned throughout their respective jurisdictions. They are further bound to prevent the felling and removal from the unclassified State forests in their charge of wood or other forest produce, except where such felling and removal is authorised by the rules in force relating to such forests.

In the Surma Valley, unclassified State forests will be in the immediate charge of subordinate officers of the Forest Department under the orders of the Divisional Forest-Officer. The tahsildárs of the Surma Valley will have no concern with such forests.

(v) Trade and home consumption permit forms will be supplied to tahsildárs and mauzadárs in the Assam Valley districts by the Divisional Forest-Officer in bound books, with three permits in each sheet, the first or original of which will be given to the person wishing to remove wood, or other forest produce, in cases where such removal without a permit is not authorised by the forest rules in force; the second will be sent on the 10th and 25th of every month to the Divisional Forest-Officer; and the third will be retained for reference. In cases where the Divisional Forest-Officer or any other officer authorised by the Deputy Commissioner to do so grants trade permits, the second foil of the permit will be forwarded to the tahsildár or mauzadár concerned for information.

(vi) In cases where trade or home consumption permits are granted for more than one tree or for large quantities of bamboos, canes, charcoal, or other produce, and particularly where trees, bamboos, or canes are cut in

large numbers for export, or where charcoal is manufactured in large quantities for export, the Divisional Forest-Officer must be careful to inform permit-holders that such forest-produce in transit is liable to detention and to a second payment of royalty if each quantity removed separately is not covered by a pass, which latter will be granted free.

(vii) In cases in which royalty is chargeable on forest produce felled or removed from unclassed State forests in the Assam Valley districts, tahsildárs and mauzadárs are strictly prohibited from taking any money on account of such royalty without giving immediately a permit, with the full amount correctly entered thereon, to the payee. They are also strictly prohibited from accepting money by way of compensation for any breach of rules which may have been committed, or for the release of any forest-produce seized as liable to confiscation, without previous orders from the Divisional Forest-Officer in each case.

(viii) Tahsildárs and mauzadárs in the Assam Valley districts will pay the whole forest revenue collected by them direct into the treasury; a commission of 10 per cent. will be allowed on all revenue actually collected by mauzadárs, who will be paid on a separate bill, on production of the treasury *chalan*.

(ix) The valuation of timber on lands allotted for purposes of cultivation or for other objects, in accordance with the Settlement Rules for the time being in force in the province, will be carried out by the Divisional Forest-Officer or Forest Range-Officer, except in cases where, for special reasons, the Deputy Commissioner may consider it necessary to order otherwise.

(x) The Rules published under Notifications Nos. 606 R. (Imported Foreign Produce), 607 R. (Sporting Rules for Reserved Forests), 608 R. (Reserved Trees), 610 R. (River Rules), of 22nd February 1895, and 2700 R. (Drift Timber Rules) of the 6th July 1896, call for no special remark. These are merely the old rules consolidated and re-arranged with a few verbal alterations.

31. Instructions to mauzadárs in matters concerning raiyyats must bear the divisional officer's signature, and vernacular translations must be carefully scrutinised to avoid errors.

Instructions to mauzadárs should bear the divisional officer's signature.

32. Mauzadár's and tahsildár's home consumption and other permit books should be inspected at least twice a year, and inquiries should be made as to cause of increases or decreases of issues for free grants or sale purposes.

Inspections of home consumption and other permit books.

Divisional officers may substitute saplings for trees when so desired by

raiyyats, the correct entries as to number and value being made in the register of free grants. Inspections should be made in the presence of mauzadárs and tahsildárs, who should be made to understand the forest rules themselves and have impressed on them the necessity of making these equally well known amongst raiyyats.

33. A good seed year of any of the more valuable trees, and the flowering of bamboos, or unmistakeable signs of a good seed year, should be reported to the Editor of the *Indian Forester*.

Seeding of trees and flowering of bamboos.

34. (i) The Settlement Rules of 1870, which applied only to the Assam Valley, prescribed no form of decennial lease, but only a form of annual lease, which gave the lessee no property in the land held by him, and not even a right of resettlement at the end of the year if the Government wished to take back the land; he had, therefore, no right conferred upon him to fell and remove valuable trees on his land.

Royalty for timber on land taken up for ordinary or special cultivation.

(ii) A form of decennial lease for the Assam Valley was for the first time prescribed in the Decennial Settlement Rules of April 1883, which conferred on the lessee a permanent, heritable, and transferable interest in the land covered by his lease. In connection with these rules, it was ordered in Revenue Department Circular No. 39 of 10th July 1883, that, where the Deputy Commissioner or subdivisional officer had reason to believe that there was any valuable timber on land held on annual lease, for which the lessee had not paid Government royalty, the Settlement-Officer should, in giving a decennial lease for such land, insert in manuscript the following clause :

Nothing herein shall entitle the lessee to fell any reserved tree on his holding, not being trees planted by himself or his predecessors in interest, except on payment of such royalty and subject to such rules as the Chief Commissioner may from time to time prescribe.

In Circular No. 19R., dated the 25th April 1884, it was pointed out that the Government desired to assert no rights to forest-produce other than reserved trees on lands which had been already settled on annual, decennial, or *nisf-khiraj* leases. It is clear that, under the definition, land already taken up by settlement-holders under grant or lease, either for ordinary or special cultivation, is not at the disposal of Government, as defined in section 3 (8) of the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891.

(iii) It is now pointed out to all district officers in the province that under the Assam Forest Regulation and the Rules relating to Unclassed State

Forests, issued under section 34 (2) of that Regulation, royalty can be levied by the Forest Department only on timber (*i.e.*, trees felled, whether reserved or unreserved) and other forest-produce on land at the disposal of Government. As already stated, lands which have been leased by Government to cultivators are not "at the disposal of Government."

(iv) In some cases land is taken up under the Settlement Rules, either for special or ordinary cultivation, and the lessee is not required to pay royalty unless the trees on the land covered by the lease are felled, and sold or removed for sale [see Settlement Rules 48 and 81]. Special leases have also from time to time been issued, exempting the lessee from payment of royalty on similar conditions. It is incumbent on all district and subdivisional officers, and also Forest-Officers, to see that settlement-holders who have received leases of forest lands from Government without being required in the first instance to pay royalty, but who, under the conditions of their leases, or under the Settlement Rules, are liable to pay royalty, if they sell, or remove for sale, the timber on their lands, are not allowed to evade the rules or the express conditions of their leases. Whenever such cases are discovered by the District Forest-Officer, he should report at once to the Deputy Commissioner and take his orders for the valuation of the timber sold or removed for sale, but he should not make any valuation without orders from the Deputy Commissioner. If any such cases are discovered by, or brought to the notice of, a subdivisional officer, he will similarly report to the Deputy Commissioner for orders. Should the Deputy Commissioner himself discover such cases, he may call on the District Forest-Officer to have the necessary valuation made and realise the amount from the settlement-holders, the sum realised being credited to the Forest Department.

35. The factors to be used for calculating the volumes of trees, etc., are as follows, but are to be adopted (except as regards tea boxes) only where actual cubic contents cannot be ascertained:

Factors for volume of trees,
etc.

Factors to be used for calculating cubic contents of trees and other produce from Government Forests, Assam.

Division.	S&I trees.		First-class or other exploitable trees.	Boats.	Trees granted free for home consumption.	Monthly firewood permit.	Annual firewood permit.	Charcoal per maund.	Firewood per maund.	Poles and saplings.	Posts, dead wood, and drift wood.	Tea-boxes, large.	Tea-boxes, medium.	Tea-boxes, half.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Cachar	Actual	30	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Sylhet	30	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Goalpara	...	50	60	50	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Kamrup	...	30	50	50	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Darrang	...	30	50	50	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Nongong	...	30	50	50	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Sibsagar	50	50	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Lakhimpur	50	50	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...
Garo Hills	...	50	50	50	20	64	768	8	2	4	10	...	...	...

SECTION XVIII.—Specimens, entomological and others.

1. The following memorandum on the killing, preserving, and transporting of insects was drawn up by Mr. M. H. Clifford :

Memorandum on killing, preserving, and transporting insects.

For killing insects, the best thing is a tin cylinder—say, an empty tobacco-tin—with a closely-fitting removable cap lid at each end. The ordinary half pound tobacco-tin, which is about $6\frac{1}{2}$ " long, with a circumference of $9\frac{3}{4}$ ", is of a convenient size for most insects. Into this a perforated tin diaphragm may be fixed, at about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " or 2" from one end of the cylinder. The larger chamber will contain the insects to be killed, while the smaller one will be used as a receptacle for poison.

The most effective poison against insects is cyanide of potassium, but its peculiar property of deliquescing with either heat or moisture makes it difficult to use. I have tried making up strong solutions of it with plaster-of-Paris (calcined gypsum), but I find the effect goes off too rapidly, and the hardened cake soon becomes perfectly innocuous. I have also tried enclosing solid pieces of cyanide of potassium in plaster-of-Paris, but I have not yet succeeded in getting the plaster to set properly. Should further experiments in this direction turn out better, I hope to be able to supply a convenient form of insect poison to any one who wishes to possess it.

Hitherto, I have employed essential oil of almonds, a drop or two of which on a small piece of sponge is quite enough to fill a tobacco-tin with strong fumes of prussic acid. In place of the oil, ordinary flavouring essence of almonds may be used, but its effect is not so good. The oil may be obtained from any chemist at every large station, while the flavouring essence is procurable from all provision dealers. Ordinary benzine is also very effective, and is easily obtained from any chemist. It has further the property of removing greasy stains from the wings of moths, when directly applied. Before being placed in a collection, the insect should be painted over with a fluid composed of :—

- 1 quart of methylated spirits.
- 1 oz. of mercuric chloride (corrosive sublimate).
- 1 oz. of carbolic acid.

This will preserve it from insects and mould.

Larvæ of insects—grubs of beetles, bees, wasps, etc., and caterpillars of butterflies and moths—may be preserved in spirits of wine.

For transmission by post, larvæ may be sent in bottles of methylated spirits. Beetles grasshoppers, and hard-bodied insects generally, should be placed in tin-boxes with saw-dust, over which benzine should be liberally sprinkled.

The various species of insects in one box may be separated by layers of paper. Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) should be packed, with their wings together, in pieces of paper folded into triangles with the edges overlapping. The specimens must not be left loose in the box, but so arranged that they cannot be shaken in transit. When packed with insects, the box should have all its interstices covered with gum paper carefully applied so as to exclude all enemies.

2. The collection and preparation of proper specimens of Indian insects is enjoined, and those Forest-Officers willing to undertake the study of special families or subdivisions of the same should do so in communication with the Director of the Forest School.

Collection and preparation of insect specimens enjoined.

3. In the collecting of insects, forest rangers should be employed and made use of, the necessary poison for killing and preparing specimens being obtained from the Forest School, and, if not so obtained, a chemist should be resorted to, and any expenditure incurred, charged to A ix c.

Forest rangers to be utilised
in collecting insect specimens.

4. Investigations will be conducted by the Inspector General of Forests, but all communications on the subject should be addressed to the Director of the Forest School.

Inspector General of Forests
will control investigations.

5. The method of collecting, drying, and mounting botanical specimens recommended by Dr. Watt is as follows:

Botanical specimens.

(i) The paper used by me for botanical drying purposes is the ordinary jail-made paper before it has been polished or sized. I believe that that paper is procurable at any Indian jail. The kind used by me was obtained from the Lahore jail at a price of between Rs. 7 to Rs. 8 per ream of 480 sheets. This quantity should last for a good many years, so long as the plants are not allowed to remain in it till rotten. This is prevented by changing the paper every alternate day; and, by exposing it to the sun, it is again dried. By this process the moisture is sucked completely out of the plants; but the process should be continued till they become quite dry and brittle, instead of being flaccid. If a single half-dried plant be stowed away along with others completely dry, in a week's time the whole package will be rotten. When once completely dry, they will keep indefinitely. To ensure their not being eaten by insects, they should be painted over with a saturated solution of corrosive sublimate in spirits of wine. This not only saves them from being eaten by insects, but it also prevents the partial re-absorption of moisture incident to a damp climate from resulting in the formation of destructive mould or fungus growth.

(ii) As to the best process for—

(a) pressing, and

(b) mounting.

(a) I rarely use more pressure than is necessitated by tying up bundles of paper with plants between each sheet or two. For this purpose I construct iron-wire frames, or simple bamboo frames like the marginal sketch.* Between two iron or bamboo frames (each a little larger than the paper), I tie, with four strings, a bundle of paper half a foot thick. When going into the jungles, I take one of these bundles with me. When collecting a plant, I cut off a twig with flower or fruit and one or two good leaves attached. I open the frame and place the twig, two or three sheets from the bottom, taking care to open out or flatten down the specimen as well as possible before closing the paper over it. I turn one leaf of the specimen up, for example, to show the upper surface, and the other down to show the lower; and placing the hand under the next sheet or two of paper, I hold the plant in the required position as the frame is being closed. But on collection, I attach a numbered ticket at once to each specimen, giving the date, locality, and native name, together with any notes as to its being a tree, climber or herb, as having flowers of this colour and that shape, etc. I then close the frame and

* Not reproduced.

march on. This system of numbering and recording on the spot as each specimen is collected, I accomplish by having a pocket diary, in which I enter the notes, and to the specimens I simply assign the continuous diary number. When I come to another required plant, I cut off a twig and place it as before in the frame, leaving two or three sheets of paper between it and the former, and also place it to left or right of the page, as the case may be, so as to prevent the first and the second specimens pressing over each other. If this be not attended to, thick woody specimens will crumple or break delicate things above or below them, so that they will dry in an irregular shape, instead of flat. On coming home, I give my press to a peon and order him to change the specimens into fresh paper and tie them up in frames, each containing not more than 20 specimens. These frames, two and two against each other, are exposed to the sun, and each day or alternate day the paper is changed until the specimens are quite dry. The same paper after being dried may be used over and over again. Boards might be employed instead of frames, but these do not so readily allow of the escape of moisture. All the pressure that is necessary is obtained by tying the frames firmly together, *i.e.*, enough pressure to prevent the specimen curling while drying.

(b) As to mounting—a stiff paper of good quality is required, such as drawing paper. The accepted size is $10\frac{1}{2}$ by 17 inches. *To mount the specimens*, get a pot of ordinary glue, prepare a thin solution and keep hot on the fire. Place the specimen face downwards on a newspaper and paint with glue completely over the surface of every leaf, twig, etc. Raise it up carefully and place the glued-side downwards on the sheet of mounting paper. When thus laid out on the sheet of mounting paper, by means of a damp clean cloth press or daub down all over the surface and wipe off any glue that may have escaped at the margins of the leaves, etc. Then place the mounted sheets each between pieces of newspaper; make a pile and lay on the top a board and a weight; leave in this position for a day or two to let the glue set; then remove. If the ends of the mounted specimens are thick, paste small bands of paper, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in breadth, across in order to prevent them from jumping off the mounting sheet. To complete the process paint all over the plant with the poison solution. As this will dry in, there is no disadvantage if in doing so the paper for an inch or so all round be poisoned also.

(iii) Although I have given full directions for mounting, it is not necessary for the Cooper's Hill collection that the specimens should be mounted. A selection of the specimens received from all parts of India will be mounted by me. But it would be a good plan for Forest-Officers to preserve in their own offices a duplicate of all collections made by them, and these might be mounted as above described. The first specimen collected should be numbered No. 1, and if a dozen samples of it are collected, all should bear No. 1. Again, if its gum be collected, that should bear No. 1 also. So with regard to its fibre, its medicine, etc. Sometimes a plant is too large, and then sections have to be made—one to represent the flower, another the fruit, and a third the leaf; but each of these sections should bear No. 1. In a like manner the next plant collected should be treated, every part of it bearing No. 2. But the greatest care should be taken to see that the parts collected are parts of the same plant: all should, if possible, be taken *off one and the same individual tree*. Species are often so nearly allied that without special botanical knowledge they cannot be distinguished. If the same thing as No. 1 be collected from another locality, or during another season, give it a further number (the next diary number); but the descriptive note should say that it is suspected that it is the same as No. 1 or that it is cut from the same individual tree as No. 1

(iv) Having dried thoroughly a batch of plants, taking the greatest care that what is only partially dry is not set aside as dry, select a set to be despatched to Simla. Place a specimen in one sheet of newspaper, with its tickets, etc., complete, and close in the ends of the paper by doubling over an inch or so. This prevents the specimens from falling out of their places. Then give a sheet or two without specimens in them. The next sheet with specimens; but arrange these specimens so that they will, if possible, cover the entire page. Where each specimen is packed in the middle of the page, the bundle would become convex, and in tying it up the dry brittle plants would be broken. The specimens should be so distributed that the bundle will remain quite flat. Place on top and bottom of the bundle a thin plank or pasteboard. Tie up securely, then sew into oil cloth, or pack in a small waterproof box and despatch by post or train.

(v) Should it be necessary for me to ask Forest-Officers for further samples of any one specimen or for any information, I shall simply quote their numbers; and in furnishing the report I shall say No. 1 is so and so, No. 2, and so on. It is therefore, not necessary that Forest-Officers should trouble themselves as to the scientific names of the plants (unless they so please); but, in giving me the vernacular names, it is essentially necessary that they should be printed. It is rarely the case with vernacular words in manuscript—in the case of English words, the context helps—that it is possible to distinguish the letter *u* from *n* or even from *a*. This causes endless trouble, so that it is a good plan as recommended to print all vernacular words. In spelling native names, the Hunterian system should be followed, more specially with the vowels:—‘*oo*’ given as *û* accentuated, ‘*ee*’ as *ê* accentuated, ‘*aa*’ as *â* accentuated, etc. Information as to the uses of the plants would be most valuable, *e.g.*, whether they yield a gum, a dye, or a fibre; whether the leaves, root, etc., are used as a medicine and for what medicinal purpose; whether the seeds afford oil, etc., etc. Should Forest-Officers find the time to record and communicate such information, the method adopted in preparing and utilizing the product might be added.

SECTION XIX.—Supply of Forest Produce to other Government Departments.

1. In Government of India Circular No. 2-F., dated 24th January 1889, it was decided that the revenue realized from quarries and minor mineral products in Government forests and lands which are under the management of the Forest Department, should be credited to “Forests;” but where such forests and lands are not under the management of that department, to “Land Revenue (Miscellaneous).”

2. The question whether, under these rulings, the Forest Department is entitled to charge royalty to another department of Government upon minerals taken from the forest area, has more than once come before the Government of India; but, though it has usually been decided, on these individual references, that the Forest Department was entitled to levy a royalty on all materials supplied to other departments, no definite general ruling on the subject has yet been laid down. The Government of India now consider it desirable to issue formal orders in the matter for general guidance, in order

to secure uniformity of procedure and to prevent the possibility of misunderstanding. They consider that a distinction may properly be drawn between vegetable products which strictly appertain to a forest as such, and animal products which depend for their existence either directly or indirectly upon the presence of the forest, on the one hand, and mineral products, the existence of which is independent of the fact that the land is a forest, on the other. They consider, also, that it is undesirable to extend to contractors working for a Government department, any privileges which the department itself may enjoy when operating directly by its own establishment.

3. They direct therefore that the Forest Department shall charge other Government departments for all vegetable or animal products extracted from a forest area, in the same manner in which it charges the public; and that it shall similarly charge contractors for all mineral products extracted by them, whether in behalf of a Government department or not. If a Government department extracts mineral products for sale, they also will be charged for. But the Forest Department will not charge other Government departments for mineral products extracted from a forest area by the direct agency of the department concerned, under its own supervision and without the intervention of contractors or middlemen, for its own use, and not for disposal to the public or other departments. For such products the Forest Department will take no credit in the public (Treasury) accounts of Government. But for statistical purposes the value of these products should be shown in the returns furnished by the Forest Department, just as the value of timber and other forest produce removed by free grantees or right-holders is already shown.

4. The ruling that certain forest products shall not be charged for if directly extracted by other Government departments for their own use, in no way confers upon such departments any right of entry upon or of working in the areas under the charge of the Forest Department. That department retains its full powers of control; and, subject to the orders of superior authority, will continue to fix and limit the localities where such extraction may take place, and to impose any conditions which it may consider necessary for the safety of its forests and the convenience of its own work.

5. The above rulings will apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to every class of forest or waste land at the disposal of Government, independently of the agency by which such land may be administered.

SECTION XX.—Stores, Tools, Plant, and Uniforms.

1. The subject of stores generally is dealt with in Section X, Chapter XI

Stores,

of the Manual of Executive Rules.

2. Applications for sanction to the purchase of tools, stores, and plant should state the quantity and quality of the stores wanted, and the prices at which procurable and should name the firm from which it is proposed to purchase them, so that comparisons with prices of other firms may be made by the Conservator.

Sanctions for purchase.

3. The quantities allowed for each division in the matter of cartridges and caps are laid down, with a form of indent. Excess quantities required may be indented for on payment for the same. Indents should show the number of rifles in the remark column, and differences from the previous year's number should be explained.

Ammunition indents.

4. For divisional offices, registers of receipts and issues of uniforms should be kept in forms A and B. Form A is a general register, showing—

Uniform registers.

- (a) Receipts from contractor.
- (b) Payments made to contractor.
- (c) Issues to subordinates.
- (d) Balance of stock in hand.

Form B is a ledger account to be opened for each distributing agency, and exhibiting—

- (a) The articles supplied as per general register.
- (b) Recoveries of payments.
- (c) Balance of payment due.

The divisional officer should initial the entries of receipts and issues, and the entries in column 12 of the general register, and treat similarly the ledger account, which should be balanced after every recovery from a subordinate office.

It is only necessary for the divisional officer to balance and initial column 12 of the general uniform register (Form A), and the uniform ledger accounts (Form B), therein prescribed, at the close of each month in which any transaction takes place.

For range officers, the following instructions are prescribed :

Form C must be kept up in each range office, to account for all uniforms received and issued by range officers, and to form a record of all recoveries of the value of articles of uniform from rangers, deputy rangers, foresters, and guards, to whom they may be supplied. Sums so due will be recovered by range officers by short payments of the salaries of those to whom the uniforms are supplied, and will be credited in their cash-books as

advances received for current expenditure from the divisional officer, to whom a receipt, in cash payment (advances recoverable) voucher form, will be sent with the copy of the range cash-book for the month in which the transaction takes place.

In the divisional disbursers' ledger (Form No. 28), a separate account will be entered for each range officer to whom uniforms are sent for sale or distribution to those serving in his range, as well as for the head clerk, who is in charge of the uniforms in stock in the divisional office. These accounts will be called "Uniform Supply Account" and will be so recorded in column 3 of Form No. 29, "Abstract of Contractor's and Disbursers' Ledger." The value of uniforms can in no case be mixed up with the cash in hand of disbursers for current expenditure, or with unremitted revenue in their hands, in the divisional contractors' and disbursers' ledger (Form No. 28).

5. The cost of carriage and packing of uniforms should be borne by Government and not by subordinates.

Carriage of uniforms.

6. All forest rangers, deputy rangers, foresters, and forest guards, are required to wear uniform according to their rank when on duty. The following is a description of the uniforms to be worn by them.

Prescribed uniform.

(a) *Forest Rangers.*

Tunic of No. 1 *khaki* drill, 28" from bottom of collar for man 5'9" and variation according to height, rounded in front and edged with inch *khaki* coloured braid all round, up the openings of sides and round pockets.

On each side in front cross braids forming crow's-feet and eyes, 6" long from outer edge to end of crow's-foot and 3½" from outer edge to eyes; 5 silver buttons on the rightside to fasten through loops on the left. Hooks and eyes on either side of each loop. The cross-pieces are of round ½" circumference *khaki*-coloured braid, shoulder straps of double silver thread cord twisted and fastened to blank silver buttons. Sleeves with green facing 2" deep coming to a point on one side, 4¼" deep. Overfacing showing an edge of green between it and sleeve, is a ¼" braiding forming a loop similar to treble loop on cross braids in front.

Collar 1" green cloth, with similar braiding to sleeve, double row, one above and one below, the collar showing ½" of green between the braiding.

Trousers of *khaki* drill No. 2, with flat one-inch *khaki*-coloured braid down the outer seams.

Cap of *khaki* cloth, with horizontal peak $1\frac{1}{2}$ " of brown leather, depth of cap $2\frac{1}{4}$ ", with a border of flat braid 1" deep at $\frac{1}{4}$ " above a narrow *khaki* braid all round, again $\frac{3}{4}$ " above a narrow green insertion, and then again $\frac{3}{4}$ " a narrow green insertion, silver button with narrow *khaki*-coloured braid round it, and round these a row of braided eyes. In front a silver "F. D." Roman letters $\frac{3}{4}$ " high.

A chin strap of brown leather 16" long and $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide, with a small buckle at rightside for increasing or decreasing length of strap.

(b) *Deputy Rangers and Foresters.*

Khaki patrol-jacket, 28" from bottom of collar for man 5' 9" and variation according to height, rounded in front, and edged with inch *khaki*-coloured braid all round, up the openings of sides, and round pockets.

On each side in front cross-braids forming crow's-feet and eyes, 6" long from outer edge to end of crow's-foot and $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from outer edge to eyes; 5 netted olivets on the right side to fasten through loops on the left. Hooks and eyes on either side of each loop. The cross-pieces are of round $\frac{1}{2}$ " circumference *khaki*-coloured braid, shoulder-straps of same colour braid twisted and fastened to blank brass buttons with embossed crown.

Sleeves with green facing, 2" deep, coming to a point on one side, $4\frac{1}{4}$ " deep. Overfacing showing an edge of green between it and sleeve, is a $\frac{1}{4}$ " braiding forming a loop similar to treble loop on cross braids in front. Collar 1" green cloth with similar braiding to sleeve, double row, one above and one below the collar, showing $\frac{1}{2}$ " of green between the braiding.

Trousers of *khaki* drill No. 2, with flat one-inch *khaki*-coloured braid down the outer seams.

Cap of *khaki* cloth, with horizontal peak $1\frac{1}{2}$ " of brown leather, depth of cap $2\frac{1}{4}$ ", with a border of flat braid 1" deep at $\frac{1}{4}$ " above a narrow *khaki* braid all round, again $\frac{3}{4}$ " above a narrow green braid, and then again $\frac{3}{4}$ " a narrow green insertion, and again $\frac{3}{4}$ " a narrow green braid, *khaki* pearl button with narrow *khaki*-coloured braid round it, and round these a row of braided eyes. In front a silver "F. D." Roman letters $\frac{3}{4}$ " high.

A chin-strap of brown leather, 16" long and $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide, with small buckle at right side for increasing or decreasing length of strap.

(c) *Head Forest Guards.*

Khaki patrol jacket, the same as those for foresters, but without braiding, shoulder-straps of *khaki* covered with green cloth one inch wide, with a metal button on each.

Trousers, the same as those for foresters, but without braid. Cap, the same as those for foresters.

(d) *Forest Guards.*

Pagri of green cotton; tunic of No. 2 *khaki*-coloured drill with green cloth collar and green worsted cuffs; knickerbockers of No. 2 *khaki* drill, waist-belt of brown leather, with a *khukri*.

(e) *Cost of Uniform.*

The cost of uniform supplied to forest subordinates in Assam is as follows:*

Name of article.	Forest ranger.	Forester.	Head forest-guard.	Forest-guard.
1	2	3	4	5
	<i>Rs. a.</i>	<i>Rs. a.</i>	<i>Rs. a.</i>	<i>Rs. a.</i>
Coat	11 4	7 8	3 2	2 2
Trousers	3 6	3 6	2 13	...
Cap (with peak)	3 4	2 8	2 8	...
<i>Pagri</i> ... ..	...	...	...	1 9
Knickerbockers ... ..	...	...	...	2 0
Total ...	17 14	13 6	8 7	5 11

All the belts and badges are supplied at Government cost, and Government also pays for a *pagri* to each forest guard in the permanent establishment once every year.

Standard patterns for each class have been furnished to the contractors and divisional officers will be held responsible that their subordinates are neatly and uniformly dressed.

The clothing account will be kept by the head clerk of the divisional office, to whom an advance will be made to enable him to promptly pay the contractors. The cost of all clothing supplied to subordinates must be recovered from them by monthly deductions from their pay. These recoveries must in no case be allowed to extend over a longer period than six months.

* From Secretary to Chief Commissioner, to Conservator, letter No. 193-Forests—4904-R., dated the 17th October 1894.

7. The loss of brass badges should be reported to the Conservator, so that
Brass badges. new ones with different numbers may be supplied.
8. Indents for elephant gear should be in the form prescribed, showing
Elephant gear. the separate items in hand for each elephant, and
 such as are necessary to completely equip the elephant for the season's work with serviceable material.
9. Chubb's padlocks and locks, which are supplied by the Superintendent
Chubb's locks. of Stationery for treasuries and to officers who have
 valuable property, such as securities, in their custody, should be included in the general indent for stationery, which is submitted for countersignature through the Head of the Department. The purpose for which they are required should be clearly stated.
10. Government stores should be sent, when there is no Government
Carriage of Government stores. vessel available, and when they cannot be carried by
 mail steamers, by the cargo steamers of either Company, *i.e.*, the Rivers Steam Navigation Company or the India General Steam Navigation Company.

SECTION XXI.—Timber valuation on land taken up for cultivation.

TIMBER VALUATIONS ON GOVERNMENT WASTE LAND TAKEN UP FOR SPECIAL OR ORDINARY CULTIVATION.

1. The following rules under Sections 12 and 29, Land and Revenue
Rules for grants of land for special and ordinary cultivation. Regulation, 1886, as amended by Regulation II of
 1889, extracted from the Consolidated Settlement Rules of the Province,* show how valuations of timber are to be made on Government waste lands taken up for special or ordinary cultivation :

Rules 1 to 17 and 28 of Section I.—SPECIAL CULTIVATION.

1. "Special cultivation" means the cultivation of tea, coffee, cinchona, timber, and
Definitions. other produce, which is not included among the ordinary
 staples of the province, and which requires a considerable expenditure of capital.

"Waste land" in this section means unoccupied land, the property of Government, which the Government has not disposed of by lease, grant, or otherwise, and which is of such a character or in such a position that it is not likely to be taken up for the cultivation of the ordinary staples of the country within a reasonable time.

* The rules were consolidated under section 159 of the Regulation and published under Notification No. 581-B., dated the 27th December 1894.

“ Cost of survey ” includes costs incurred by the Deputy Commissioner in—

- (i) the putting up of temporary boundary-marks under Rule 10;
- (ii) the pay of the surveyor and of his establishment.

What lands can be taken up for special cultivation.

2. Only waste lands, as defined in Rule 1, can be taken up for special cultivation.

* Provided that no lands may be taken up under this section which lie within 75 feet of the edge or base of the embankment of any provincial road, or within 50 feet of the edge or base of the embankment of any local road.

Lands which may not be leased under this section.

3. Ordinary waste land of the following description shall not be leased under this section without the special sanction of the Chief Commissioner :

- (a) Land in forests reserved, or proposed to be reserved, under section 5 of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, and land in unclassified forests containing sal.
- (b) Land specially valuable for grazing or for the supply of fuel.
- (c) Land known or supposed to contain valuable minerals.
- (d) Land claimed by wild tribes, or over which the inhabitants of neighbouring villages claim special privileges.

Act XXIII, 1863.

4. The provisions of Act XXIII, 1863, shall apply to leases of land sold under this section.

5. Applications for waste land required for the purposes of special cultivation shall be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of the district either direct or through the subdivisional officer of the subdivision in which the land is situate, and shall give the following particulars :

- (i) Name and address of applicant.
- (ii) Nature of the special cultivation for which the land is required.
- (iii) Estimated area in acres of the land, with its character and description.
- (iv) The situation of the land and its boundaries ascertained and described as fully as possible.
- (v) What grants or leases for special cultivation, or interest in any such grants or leases the applicant already holds in the district.

6. No application for a single lease under this section shall be entertained if the area applied for exceeds 600 acres except with the special sanction of the Chief Commissioner; and, if the applicant already possesses a grant or lease of waste land for special cultivation, or an interest in any such grant or lease, the Deputy Commissioner shall enquire whether he really intends to cultivate or plant the additional area applied for and shall not entertain the application until he has satisfied himself on this head.

7. Every lot applied for must be compact, including no more than one tract of land such as might be enclosed within a ring fence. If the land touches a public road or navigable river, the length of the road or river frontage must not exceed one-half the depth of the lot; but, if for any special reasons the Chief Commissioner see fit to relax this restriction, he may do so.

8. The applicant shall, at the time of presenting his application, deposit a sum to cover cost of survey at the rate of eight annas per acre. This sum shall be calculated on the area which the lot is estimated by the applicant to contain. If the area applied

Limit of area for which application can be made.

Land applied for to be compact.

Deposit of cost of survey, and of demarcation of boundaries.

* Added by Notification No. 1-R., dated the 1st January 1896.

for exceeds 100 acres, the applicant shall further deposit Rs. 16 for expenses of advertisement under Rule 14.

The Deputy Commissioner shall ascertain from the applicant whether he desires to clear and demarcate the boundaries himself prior to survey; if so, he may be permitted to do so in the manner required by the Deputy Commissioner. If the Deputy Commissioner undertakes the clearing and preliminary demarcation of boundaries on behalf of the applicant, the applicant shall deposit, in addition to the cost of survey, the cost of clearing and demarcation as estimated by the Deputy Commissioner, and shall point out the boundaries to the surveyor.

On the failure of the applicant to make the deposits required by this rule within one month of date of application, or to point out the boundaries to the surveyor after due notice, the application shall be rejected.

9. After deposit of cost of survey, advertisement, and demarcation under Rule 8, the Deputy Commissioner shall cause the land to be surveyed and a map prepared on the scale of 16 inches to the mile.

10. During the progress of the survey, temporary boundary marks, consisting of earthen mounds not less than 4 feet in diameter at the base and 4 feet high, shall be erected by the surveyor at all boundary angles and at intervals of 100 yards along all boundary lines not marked by clearly-defined natural features. Under no circumstances shall a waste land lease be issued, or possession given to the applicant, until the map has been prepared and the boundary marks have been reported by the surveyor to have been erected as required by this rule.

11. If, on the completion of a survey, it is found that the land applied for exceeds the maximum area allowed to be taken up under this section or if at any time before sale it is found that the land applied for does not fulfil the requirements of this section, the Deputy Commissioner may call for an amended application; and, in the event of an amended application not being filed within 30 days of the Deputy Commissioner's order, the original application may be rejected, and the cost of survey, demarcation, and advertisement deposited by the applicant shall be returned to him, less the cost actually incurred. Provided that in any such case it shall be in the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner to extend the period within which an amended application may be received.

12. The surveyor appointed to survey lands for which application is made under this section shall ordinarily not be below the rank of a Sub-Deputy Collector. Provided that the Commissioner may give any officer attached to the Deputy Commissioner's establishment, whom he may consider competent, special authority to survey lands generally, or any land in particular under this section. In no case shall *thika* amins, who are not borne on the regular establishment of the Deputy Commissioner, be appointed to survey lands under this section without the special sanction of the Chief Commissioner.

13. When the surveyor reports completion of his survey, and the Deputy Commissioner is satisfied—

Notice of sale.

- (i) that the map is accurate,
- (ii) that it is on the correct scale,

- (iii) that the necessary marks have been erected as required by Rule 10,
- (iv) that the land is waste, and such as may be sold under this section,
- (v) the Deputy Commissioner and the applicant shall both sign the map, after which the Deputy Commissioner shall issue a notice of sale in the form given in Appendix A, in which the date fixed for sale shall not be less than three months after publication of notice.

14. The notice of sale shall be published in English and Vernacular at the Deputy Commissioner's office, at the Court of the District Judge, and at the subdivisonal office, tahsil office, and police station, within the limits of which the land is situate. If the area of the lot to be sold exceeds 100 acres, a copy of the notice will be sent to the Commissioner and an advertisement of the proposed sale in the form given in Appendix A shall be published in the *Assam Gazette*.

15. * The Deputy Commissioner shall, as soon as possible after an application has been filed under this section, cause a Forest officer to make an estimate of the value of the trees on the land applied for.

In making the valuation, the Forest officer shall have regard solely to the market value *in situ* and to the profit, if any, which the applicant is likely to derive from the timber, either by selling it or by using it for fuel or for any other purpose. If it appears, from the output of Government forest in the vicinity or from other data, that there is a ready sale in the neighbourhood for timber of the kinds found on the land, the full rates laid down in the Rules relating to unclassified State forests may be assessed; but if this is not the case, there should be no hesitation in fixing lower rates. It is not the desire of Government to place restrictions on the opening out of the country by charging applicants for land more than the trees standing on it are actually worth in the open market.

The Forest officer shall submit his valuation, if the royalty at full rates would not exceed Rs. 1,000, to the Deputy Commissioner, and the Deputy Commissioner, if he does not approve of it, may refer the matter to the Conservator, whose decision shall, subject to the orders of the Chief Commissioner, be final. If the royalty at full rates would exceed Rs. 1,000, the Forest officer shall, before sending his valuation to the Deputy Commissioner, submit it for confirmation to the Conservator, who may reduce it up to a maximum of 50 per cent., if he considers that it is too high, having regard to the inaccessibility of the timber to a market or to any other consideration. Should the Conservator consider that a larger reduction is called for than 50 per cent. on the Forest officer's valuation, he will report the case to the Chief Commissioner for sanction to such reduction. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the valuation fixed by the Conservator, he may appeal to the Chief Commissioner.

16. (i) It shall be in the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner—

Deposit of cost of valuation of timber.

(a) to require the applicant to deposit such sum as the Deputy Commissioner may estimate to be sufficient to cover the cost of the valuation; or

(b) to permit the valuation to proceed on the applicant agreeing in writing to pay that sum in the event of the land not being sold under his application.

* As amended by Notification No. 2343-B., dated the 20th December 1897.

(ii) If a deposit is made under this rule, it shall be dealt with as follows, that is to say,—

(a) If the land is sold to the applicant under the application, it shall be credited to him in part payment of the purchase-money.

(b) If the land is sold to any other person under the application, it shall be refunded to the applicant.

(c) If the land is not sold under the application, it shall be credited to Government except when the land has been withdrawn from sale in consequence of the Government desiring to retain it in its own hands, in which case the deposit shall be refunded to the applicant.

(iii) If the applicant is permitted, instead of making a deposit, to give an agreement for the payment of the amount, the agreement shall, if the land is sold under the application, be void. If the land is not sold under the application, the amount shall be recovered from the applicant as if it were an arrear of land revenue.

17. If the applicant for land under this section is allowed to enter on it before the lease is executed, he shall be required to execute an

Execution of agreement to pay forest valuation.

agreement binding himself to pay the forest valuation of any timber felled, removed, or injured during his occupation

which may be finally assessed.

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28. In the case of all leases of land not exceeding 600 acres granted under these

Rights-of-way between adjoining grants.

rules, a right-of-way must be preserved between the new grants and the adjoining grants (if any) unless specific reasons

for departing from this rule be established to the satisfaction of the Commissioner or (in the Surma Valley) of the Chief Commissioner. The strips reserved for this purpose shall ordinarily be not less than 100 feet wide.

In the case of leases of land exceeding 600 acres, the Deputy Commissioner will divide the land into convenient blocks and provide for similar rights-of-way between each. If, however, the rights-of-way are objected to by the purchaser, he will be at liberty, if he has not had notice of them prior to the sale, to throw up his lease without incurring the penalty provided in Rule 23.

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Rules 32, 34, and 48 of Section II.—ORDINARY CULTIVATION IN THE ASSAM VALLEY DISTRICTS.

32. "Ordinary cultivation" includes any species of cultivation not requiring the expenditure of considerable capital and of a nature ordinarily carried on by the natives of the province.

Definitions.

"Waste land" in this section means unoccupied land, the property of Government, which the Government has not disposed of by lease, grant, or otherwise, and which is not included in a forest reserve, or in forest proposed to be reserved under section 5 of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.

A "periodic lease" means any lease from Government, the term of which exceeds one year.

The terms "Settlement-holder," "Landholder," and "Estate" have the same meanings as those attached to them in the Land and Revenue Regulation.

* * * * *

34. Waste lands may be taken up under this section for special cultivation as defined in Section I, Rule 1, and also for building purposes as well as for ordinary cultivation.

Rules applicable to special cultivation.

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48. * (a) If the land applied for under Rule 47 is required for ordinary cultivation and does not exceed 50 *bighas*, no royalty will be payable on any forest-produce except timber sold or removed for sale, which will be liable to the full tax payable under the Rules relating to unclassed State forests. If, however, the land applied for under Rule 47 exceeds 50 *bighas* in area, or in any case, if it is required for special cultivation, the Sub-Deputy Collector entrusted with the survey of the land shall report if it contains any tree growth; and if this is the case, the same procedure shall be adopted as is laid down in Section I, Rule 15 of these Rules.

(b) If the land is required for ordinary cultivation, and there are trees standing on it which are liable to the payment of royalty under the preceding clause, the applicant shall be required to pay the valuation assessed before he receives the lease or enters on the land.

(c) If the land is required for special cultivation, a lease for the same may be issued to the applicant before the value of the timber has been ascertained, but the following clause shall be added to the lease:

"You will pay the value of the timber on the land, as ascertained in conformity with the Settlement Rules, within three months from the date of receiving notice of the valuation which has been assessed."

* * * *

Rules 66, 68 and 81 of Section III.—ORDINARY CULTIVATION IN THE SURMA VALLEY DISTRICTS.

66. "Ordinary cultivation" includes any species of cultivation not requiring the expenditure of considerable capital, and of a nature ordinarily carried on by the natives of the province.

Definitions.

"Waste Land" in this section means unoccupied land, the property of Government, which the Government has not disposed of by lease, grant, or otherwise, and which is not included in a forest reserve, or in forest proposed to be reserved under section 5 of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.

A "periodic lease" means any lease from Government, the term of which exceeds one year.

The terms "Settlement-holder," "Landholder" and "Estate" have the same meanings as those attached to them in the Land and Revenue Regulation.

68. Subject to the provisions of Rule 63, waste lands may be taken up under this section for special cultivation, as defined in Section I, Rule 1, and also for building purposes, as well as for ordinary cultivation.

Rules applicable to special cultivation.

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* As amended by Notification No. 2348-R., dated the 20th December 1897.

81. * (a) If the land applied for under Rule 80 is required for ordinary cultivation and does not exceed 50 *bighas*, no royalty will be payable on any forest valuation on applications for waste land. forest-produce, except timber sold or removed for sale, which will be liable to the full tax payable under the Rules relating to unclassified State forests. If however, the land applied for under Rule 80 exceeds 50 *bighas* in area, or in any case if it is required for special cultivation, the Sub-Deputy Collector entrusted with the survey of the land shall report if it contains any tree growth; and if this is the case, the same procedure shall be adopted as is laid down in Section I, Rule 15 of these Rules.

(b) If the land is required for ordinary cultivation, and there are trees standing on it which are liable to the payment of royalty under the preceding clause, the applicant shall be required to pay the valuation assessed before he receives the lease or enters on the land.

(c) If the land is required for special cultivation, a lease for the same may be issued to the applicant before the value of the timber has been ascertained, but the following clause shall be added to the lease:

"You will pay the value of the timber on the land, as ascertained in conformity with the Settlement Rules, within three months from the date of receiving notice of the valuation which has been assessed."

2. The following procedure should be adopted with a view to the prompt disposal of applications for waste lands required for special cultivation. When an application for land has been put in, and the survey fees have been deposited, and the boundary line of the land applied for has been cleared by the applicant, the Deputy Commissioner should depute the Sub-Deputy Collector or the Government Surveyor to map the exterior boundary of the land, with only such internal details as may be necessary for the purpose of fixing its locality on the ground, and he should at the same time direct the District Forest-Officer to depute a Forest-Officer to accompany the Sub-Deputy Collector or the Government Surveyor to measure and map in so much of the interior details as may be required for the purposes of forest valuation, and the map, as finally prepared, should be signed by the Sub-Deputy Collector or Government Surveyor, and by the Forest-Officer before submission to the Deputy Commissioner. The present practice of not deputing a Survey-Officer from the Forest Department to survey or value the forest until the Sub-Deputy Collector or Government Surveyor has submitted his map causes unnecessary delay, and should be discontinued.

A register in the attached form should be kept up in the forest office, and the valuations should be made, as far as possible, in order of date of application. The forest surveyor will accompany the Deputy Collector or District Surveyor, and will carry out all the interior survey required for making the valuation, that is to say, he will separate the forest area from

* As amended by Notification No. 2348-B., dated the 20th December 1897.

The result of the enumeration on these sample areas or lines will then be applied to the total area of the forest.

(iii) The area of forest land and other land as shown on the map (which will be supplied by the applicants) must be inspected and roughly checked, and, should it be found necessary to do so, be divided into two or three compartments.

Description of the forest.

A very simple description should then be written to indicate the nature of the standing crop as regards the number of sál, or other reserved and unreserved trees of girths above quoted.

This is best done by traversing the forest in two or more directions, in order to obtain an accurate idea of the distribution of the crop. The sample area or lines on which the valuations are to be made must then be selected and be roughly sketched in on the map according to scale.

(iv) The sample areas or the lines to be enumerated over should not be less than 10 per cent., nor more than 15 per cent. of the total area of the forest to which it is to be applied, unless the applicant desires a complete enumeration, which is admissible under the Settlement Rules.

Proportion of area of sample to area of forest.

(v) The enumeration is best carried out on lines one chain in width. The most convenient number of men to enumerate over a line one chain wide is five. One man should walk along each of the outside marked lines, and the remaining three men should walk between these two lines.

Posting of enumerators.

The men should keep at equal distances from one another, and one man should not be allowed to advance ahead of the others.

The officer in charge of the party should walk down the centre of the lines, from which position he can best superintend the work of his enumerators.

(vi) All trees are to be measured at breast high from the ground; their girth is to be ascertained by means of a measuring rod which has a fixed bar attached to one end of it, at right-angles to the rod, and a sliding bar, also at right-angles to the rod. The latter can be moved along the rod parallel to the fixed bar.

Method of measuring trees.

On the rod, divisions are to be made, indicating the diameters corresponding with the girths fixed for the classes. These divisions are to be numbered.

(vii) As the enumerators walk down the line, each will measure the tree nearest to him, calling out its species and the number which on his measuring rod corresponds with its

Method of enumeration.

diameter; the officer, in his turn, in order to be sure that no mistake is made, should call back the name and number of the tree to the enumerator. The latter should correct the officer in case he has made a mistake.

Method of registering trees.

(viii) A convenient form for the officer to enter the trees in his register is the following:

One dot is made for each of the first eight trees called by the enumerator starting at the left top-hand corner and going down the left-hand line; and after this the right-hand line. The 9th and 10th trees called are indicated by the cross lines. When ten trees have been thus entered, the operation is repeated. By these means, the number of trees enumerated can easily be correctly totalled, while each tree as it is called can quickly be entered in the register. An example is here given of the register of enumeration:

Sál trees.		Other reserved trees.		Unreserved trees.	
1		2		3	
Class (1)	Total= 12	(1)	Total= 6	(1)	Total= 0
„ (2)	„ = 9	(2)	„ = 10	(2)	„ = 0
„ (3)	„ = 5	(3)	„ = 0	(3)	„ = 0

Application of the result of the enumeration to the whole area of the forest.

(ix) The result of the enumeration is worked out in the following way:

From the map the total area of the forest and also of the sample enumeration plot is taken. It is then found what proportion the latter bears to the former; say, this is one-tenth or one-twelfth. The number of trees actually enumerated must then be multiplied by ten or twelve, as the case may be, in order to obtain the total number of trees.

(x) The following forms should be used to show the areas of forest and other lands, that of the sample area enumerated over, and the number of trees of each class actually enumerated:—

Statement showing result of enumeration.

FORM B.—OTHER LAND.

Number of compartment.	Area in acres.			Total.	Remarks.
	Grass land.	Bamboo land.	Marsh land and streams.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1 					
2 					
... ...					
Total ...					

4. Divisional Forest Officers should personally check on the ground the timber valuations of all Government waste lands required for special cultivation, when they amount to a sum of Rs. 500 and upwards. All such valuations should be forwarded, with a certificate that they have been so checked, for approval and confirmation, to the Conservator of Forests, and, to enable the latter to arrive at a just decision regarding the true value of the timber under report, it is requested that information as detailed as possible be given on the following points:

- (a) Marketable quality of the wood in regard to size and condition.
- (b) Accessibility of the timber in regard to the market.
- (c) Possibility or otherwise of the timber being exploited by the Forest Department with profit.
- (d) Means of communication between the forests and the markets.

5. Royalty on timber standing on land taken up for cultivation being credited to the Forest Department, the cost of assessing that royalty should be debited to that Department. Deposits made on this account, forfeited owing to the *laches* of the applicant, should be credited to the Forest Department.

SECTION XXII.—Travelling Allowance and Tours.

1. The diaries and travelling allowance bills of all divisional officers should be forwarded through Deputy Commissioners to the Conservator, and those of gazetted officers not holding charge of a division through their divisional officers, who should

Diaries and travelling allowance bills of officers.

countersign the diaries. The power of countersigning and passing gazetted officer's travelling allowance bills is vested in the Conservator only. All such bills and diaries should be submitted to the Conservator monthly.

2. Officers are instructed to travel by river steamers as ordinary passengers, as higher rates are in force for Government servants travelling on duty under a written requisition or pass.

Officers to travel as ordinary passengers by mail steamers.

3. No rate of hire has been fixed in Assam under article 1092 (ii) of the Civil Service Regulations, but when an officer is provided with the means of locomotion in a Government steamer or steam launch, clause 1 of that article is applied. There is nothing to prevent an officer from drawing mileage for any portion of his journey which he may travel by road, in cases when he travels partly by road and partly by Government or other steamer or steam launch.

Travelling by steamer or launch.

4. Under article 1115 of the Civil Service Regulations, although dinner may not be provided on board a vessel, sums expended on other meals may be reckoned as passage-money, and claimed by an officer, even though table-money is not deducted.

Meals on steamers.

5. When Government officials are summoned to give evidence before a Court, they should apply for the travelling and subsistence allowances admissible under the Rules of the Court. When travelling allowance is admissible under the Civil Service Regulations, a bill should be prepared, and the amount received from the Court deducted therefrom. In other cases, the amount received from the Court should be paid into the treasury to the credit of Government. The immediate official superior is in all cases responsible for seeing that these orders are fully carried out.

Journeys to give evidence in Court.

6. Intimation should be given by the Court to the head of the office concerned, whenever travelling or subsistence allowance is awarded by it to any Government official summoned to give evidence before it. The amount and nature of the allowance and the class of case in which it was granted should also be stated. When the Court fails to send the necessary advice, it should be called for by the officer to whom the officer giving evidence is subordinate.

Court to inform official superior concerned regarding allowances to witnesses.

7. The Conservator is empowered to authorise his subordinates to carry not more than two horses when travelling on duty by rail or steamer in cases where he may consider it necessary, and is authorised to dispose of all such applications under article 1093 of the Civil Service Regulations from officers subordinate to him, whether the journeys are within their ordinary jurisdiction or on transfer he

Carriage of horses by rail or steamer.

will submit an annual return to the Local Government of sanctions given by him, with brief notes explaining the circumstances of each case.

Officers travelling in their own charges, when the necessities of their duties require them to do so, should not hesitate to make use of steamer or railway for transport of horses, in anticipation of the Conservator's sanction, which, however, must be applied for in every instance.

8. Charges on account of ferry hire will not be admitted in accounts, as all Government officers are exempted from such charges by section 15 of the Ferries Act, XVII of 1878.

Ferry hire.

9. When private elephants are hired for tour purposes, if an elephant is used solely to carry Government baggage, its entire hire should be charged to Government; if solely to carry private baggage, the officer hiring should pay the entire hire of the elephant. If it is used to partly carry Government baggage and partly an officer's baggage, one-half of the hire of the elephant should be charged to Government, and the other half should be paid by the officer, no matter what the proportion of the officer's baggage to Government baggage may be.

Hire of private elephants.

10. Rupees 2 per day must be deducted from travelling allowance bills for each Government elephant used, whether the officer halts or travels. An officer is bound to use elephants to the extent of the carriage required by him, if Government elephants can be procured.

Payments for use of Government elephants.

11. A statement with their travelling allowance bills should be submitted by all officers showing the number of Government elephants used by them (if any) and the number of days on which they were employed by officers for private purposes; also the number of days for which they were used partly for private and partly for official purposes. In the latter case Re. 1 only is fixed for hire of an elephant for one day.

Record on travelling allowance bills regarding use of elephants.

No such statement is necessary when elephants have not been used, though a note to this effect should appear in the remarks column of the bill. Bills to which neither the statement nor the notes are attached, will not be passed by the Conservator.

12. Elephant hire should not be credited as revenue under Vc, but should be deducted from travelling allowance bills, the net amount of the latter only being charged in accounts.

Adjustment of elephant hire.

13. A fair price should be paid for all provisions, etc., supplied to Government officers when on tour. Officers should make it a rule either to pay for their supplies personally,

Supply of provisions to officers on tour.

or at least to satisfy themselves that the price of any supplies which have been procured through the mauzadár or other official has reached the person from whom they have been obtained.

14. The principal Forest-Officer of a district or subdivision should be at headquarters when the Chief Commissioner proceeds there on inspection duty, and officers should arrange their tours as not to be at stations, where the occupation of bungalows or rest-houses is necessary, at the same time as the Chief Commissioner.

15. No definite rules can be laid down for tours by Forest-Officers, but each officer is expected to inspect all subordinate offices and sale depôts twice a year, tahsildárs, and mauzadárs' home consumption and trade permit books twice a year, and to personally control the carrying out of all operations embodied in the year's working scheme; he will also inspect all boundaries of reserves annually in his division. No officer should be away from headquarters for less than six months in each year.

16. To enable stipendiary students to join the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun, Local Governments and Administrations may arrange, at discretion, for an advance of actual travelling expenses being made to such students. Stipendiary and private students who obtain, on passing out of the Forest School, appointments in the Government Forest Service, are entitled, under article 1191 (a) of the Civil Service Regulations, to travelling allowance for joining their first appointment.

17. Subordinates are not to travel more than 19 miles a day, unless necessary in the interests of the public service, which the divisional officer must certify to.

18. Divisional officers, of and above the rank of Assistant Conservator, are authorised to countersign and pass all travelling allowance bills of members of the executive, protective and office staffs, serving under them.

19. The jurisdiction of foresters not in charge of ranges, and of head guards employed on inspection work, should be fixed by divisional officers, to enable subordinates to recoup themselves for expenses incurred in travelling on duty, under article 1133 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations.

20. All foresters not in charge of ranges whose duties compel them to keep a horse or a pony, or to maintain other carriage, are exempted from the operation of Appendix 22 of the Civil Service Regulations, subject

to the condition that the divisional officer shall furnish a certificate on each travelling allowance bill to the effect that the officer kept a horse or a pony or other means of conveyance during the time covered by the travelling allowance bills.

21. Actual expenses to head forest guards should not be allowed for journeys not less than ten miles from their headquarters, unless on transfer, and such actual expenses can only be admitted under a certificate granted by divisional forest officers to the effect that the journeys were made in the interests of the public service and under proper authority.

Head forest guards' travelling allowances.

22. When subordinates use a "special means of conveyance," it is not sufficient for divisional forest officers to merely certify that "this was necessary in the interests of the public service." The circumstances which render the use of a special means of conveyance necessary must always be stated in the certificate. Attention is drawn to article 1131 (c) under which the Comptroller and Auditor General has to report to the Local Government any case in which the concession appears to have been improperly granted.

Certificates on subordinates' travelling allowance bills.

Section XXIII.—Working Plans.

1. Working plans are framed under rules contained in sections 82 to 92 of the Forest Department Code, fourth edition, and D'Arcy's "forest working plans" are recommended as a guide in the preparation of the same.

Preparation of working plans.

2. (i) Forest estates are properties requiring special and peculiar treatment, and differ widely from lands which are under ordinary cultivation. In the case of forests, the produce of a particular season cannot, as a rule, be removed at once, but has generally to be kept *in situ* for many years before it becomes fit for the special purpose for which it is needed. The Forest-Officer thus becomes the trustee of considerable capital, on which he may, by overworking the forests, make disastrous inroads for a long period without the fact coming to the knowledge of the Government, unless a careful account is kept of the growing stock and unless removals are duly regulated with reference to the capabilities of the forest and its power of reproduction. The control necessary to prevent such mismanagement can only be exercised by means of working-plans which must be prepared at first for the more important forests, but eventually for all the forests under the control of Government. On the other hand forests may now, from fear of overtaxing them, be worked

Reasons for, and procedure in preparation of, working plans.

below their capabilities, and thus fail to yield the revenue that may unobjectionably be realised from them. This danger also is obviated by the preparation of proper working-plans.

(ii) Every working-plan of a Government forest should be based upon the present condition of the forest, and it should deal with all points connected with its management and improvement. The details of this subject must be worked out gradually, but it may here be mentioned that the following are the most prominent matters to which the Forest-Officers should direct their inquiries :

- (i) Calculation of the growing stock.
- (ii) Calculation of the annual increase.
- (iii) Calculation of the quantity of material to be removed, annually or periodically, with due consideration of the productive capabilities of the forest and of the demand for forest-produce.
- (iv) Arrangements for the re-stocking of all cleared areas by natural reproduction, sowing and planting, protection against fire and grazing, etc.

The detail or minuteness of a working-plan will depend on the demands which are made on the forest, the nature and value of the produce removed from it, and the other purposes which it is to fulfil. Where the demand equals, or exceeds, the possible yield, working-plans must be prepared with the greatest minuteness, and every thing connected with the management must be arranged so as to obtain the highest yield which the forests are capable of returning under the most careful treatment. Where, on the other hand, the demand is as yet below the ordinary capability of the forests, a more rough and expeditious procedure may be followed. With the view of bringing all important forests under systematic management as soon as possible, the first working-plans may be of a simple description and based on such data as may be readily obtainable, to be superseded by more accurate plans as the detailed information required for their preparation becomes available.

(iii) Special Working-Plans Divisions have been established in the North-Western Provinces, in British Burma, and in the Punjab. It is understood that such a division is about to be formed in Bengal, and it is desirable that corresponding steps should, at an early date, be taken in the Central Provinces. In Assam and Berar similar arrangements may become necessary. After full consideration, His Excellency the Governor General in Council desires to communicate the following instructions regarding the future conduct and control of this work, which have been so framed as not to interfere unduly with the semi-localized character of the forest administration.

(iv) The preparation of forest working-plans will continue to be carried out by local agency and under the general or special orders of Local Governments; but, in order to ensure that the plans are drawn up according to correct principles, a certain amount of central control over their preparation and execution appears to be required, and this must be exercised by the Inspector General of Forests to the Government of India, who is assisted by the Assistant Inspector General of Forests. The officer in charge of the Working-Plans Division in each province will be subordinate to the Conservator, who should consult the Inspector General of Forests on all important points connected with the arrangement of the work and the execution of the working-plans. In the case of a province being divided into several circles, the Local Government will decide which of the Conservators will arrange for the distribution of the work of the Working-Plans Division; but the officer in charge will, for the time being, be subordinate to the Conservator of Forests in whose circle he may be working.

(v) The Inspector General of Forests will issue, in the form of circulars or otherwise, directions regarding the technical part of the preparation of working-plans, but as regards the rest of the work he will only give advice. Should he disapprove of the proceedings of any local authorities, he will suggest to the Local Government concerned the issue of such orders on the subject as may appear to him advisable. Any difference of opinion between the Inspector General and the Local Government should be referred for the orders of the Government of India. The Inspector General of Forests, or his Assistant, will also visit the several provinces and advise the local officers on the spot. Local Governments will be kept informed of all correspondence passing between Inspector General of Forests and the Conservators of Forests, by means of the monthly volume of Proceedings of the former officer. Of specially important documents, copies will at once be sent to Local Governments by the Inspector General or the Conservator of Forests, as the case may be.

(vi) As soon as any working-plan has been drawn up, the Conservator of Forests will submit it to the Inspector General of Forests, who will forward it, with his opinion and remarks, to the Local Government. The latter will then pass orders on it, and submit it to the Government of India in the Revenue Department, either for record or for orders, as each case may require. After approval of the working-plan, no deviation from it will be permitted without the previous orders of the Local Government, which will communicate all such orders to the Inspector General of Forests, and, if necessary, consult that officer before passing such orders.

(vii) For the purposes of control, the following books will be kept up by the Inspector General :

(i) Register of Reserved, Protected, and District Forests (Form No. 1 of the Forest Department Code).

(ii) Register of yield (Form No. 2).

(iii) Record of Works of Reproduction and Improvement (Form No. 3).

Similar forms for local offices were contained in the second edition of the Forest Department Code. They have since been altered so as to meet the new requirements. The manner in which these books shall be kept is laid down in Chapter II of the fourth edition of the Forest Department Code.

(viii) Divisional Forest-Officers will, not later than the 1st October in each year, submit to the Conservator of Forests copies of all entries made during the previous financial year in Forms Nos. 1, 2, and 3. The Conservator of Forests will enter the items in his Control Books, and will forward copies, not later than the 1st November in each year, to the Inspector General of Forests.

(ix) The Inspector General of Forests will transfer the entries contained in the above mentioned returns to his Control Books, and if he notices any deviation from a sanctioned plan he will draw the attention of the Local Government to it, for the issue of the necessary orders, or he will submit the case to the Government of India, as may be required. It will be observed that the Inspector General of Forests in his relation to Local Governments is intended to act as a referee or consulting officer. He will in no case interfere directly with the ordinary administration of the forests, but will draw the attention of the Local Governments or the Government of India, as the case may be, to all subjects which require consideration, and to any deviations from the sanctioned plans. These functions may perhaps, as the Department further develops, be transferred to Conservators of Forests ; but, in the present state of the Department, they must be exercised by a Central Office, for which that of the Inspector General of Forests is at present best fitted.

3. (i). In regard to certain working-plan reports submitted for the opinion of the Inspector General of Forests under section 88 of the Forest Department Code, it was observed that the method of sylvicultural treatment proposed had been inadequately discussed and justified.

Method of sylvicultural treatment to be discussed.

(ii). Section 87 of the Code is in this respect perhaps insufficiently clear. It rules that, in working-plan reports, under "method of treatment," the following subjects shall as far as possible be discussed :

(a) Object sought to be obtained.

(b) Method of treatment adopted.

(c) The exploitable age.

(iii). It is obvious that for every forest there is only one method of treatment which is sylviculturally the best, and which ought to be adopted if circumstances so permit. But circumstances do not always permit, and in the case of our Indian forests they rarely permit, the unqualified application of the theoretically-correct plan. Thus, we may frequently be obliged to adopt, during a period of known duration, a preliminary course of treatment preparatory to the application of the sylviculturally-correct method. Or we may be forced to have recourse to a method which is not the best, but which we are constrained to apply during an intermediate period in order to satisfy conditions, such as the want of demand now existing and expected to obtain more or less indefinitely.

(iv). It is not necessary to enlarge upon the disadvantage of dealing in the working-plans report *only* with the method which it is proposed to immediately apply, but which may not necessarily be the best from a purely sylvicultural point of view. In the first place, it would in that case be almost impossible for anybody not personally acquainted with the local circumstances to understand why a method of treatment, which *primâ facie* is sylviculturally superior, *i.e.*, better suited to the physical conditions of the forest, had not been adopted. Moreover, circumstances such as the demand for produce and the like may, and in many places will almost certainly, improve, and thus admit of better sylviculture.

(v). With reference to sections 84 and 87 of the Forest Department Code, it is ruled that where the treatment deemed theoretically correct cannot at present be applied, it may none the less be briefly discussed and clearly indicated in the plan. Any unavoidable departure from that method should then as far as possible be explained and justified in detail. Lastly, the plan should review the probable results of the treatment it is proposed to apply and should explain how and to what extent the improvement of the crops is provided for. In treating of the best possible sylvicultural method, the three subjects mentioned in paragraph *ii* above may suitably be taken together, but consecutively. In other respects, and provided the spirit of the foregoing instructions is observed, the arrangement prescribed by the Code may conveniently be followed.

4. The Conservator and Forest-Officers should in future keep an official diary, in which they will from day to day record, as fully as practicable, a description of the character of such forests as may be explored and examined by them, together with all facts which may be useful in forming an estimate of yield, and other data of interest as regards the future working. Such diaries should periodically be filed in the offices to which they may appropriately belong.

Diary to contain information
relative to plans.

5. Conservators are delegated powers, where main principles are not affected, to alter or deviate from working plan prescriptions as regards—

Powers to deviate from prescriptions.

- (a) silvicultural improvement ;
- (b) lines of communication and export, and
- (c) buildings, demarcation and minor works of improvement.

6. As a general guide to the preparation of stock maps, and the conduct of enumeration surveys, the following note by Mr. J. B. Bryant is entered :

Stock maps and the conduct of enumeration surveys.

STOCK MAPS AND ENUMERATION SURVEYS.

i. It is proposed to record a few notes on the preparation of stock maps and the system of carrying out enumeration surveys, as adopted in the preparation of the working-plans for the Kumaun, Garhwál, and Ganges Forest Divisions of the Central Circle, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

ii. The Kumaun division was that first taken in hand, and for a long time definite conclusions were not arrived at as to the most satisfactory method of treatment to be applied to the main sál forests, which are situated on the lower slopes of the Himalayas at an altitude of some 1,500 to 4,000 feet. At first, it was considered that these forests could best be treated by "improvement fellings" carried out with a ten years' rotation by areas only; the quantity of materials being unlimited, save by silvicultural rules. With this end in view, stock maps were prepared for all sál bearing areas which had not already been examined and described during the preparation of Mr. Hearle's working-plan for the Niudhaur valley. In these maps an attempt was made to show the distribution of sál, sain, bamboos, and trees of miscellaneous species by blue, red, green, and black lines respectively. The density of the forest was shown by the proximity or distance of the lines apart, whilst the different age classes were represented by lines of different lengths. In the forests which were being dealt with, it was found a matter of very great difficulty, even an impossibility, to prepare these maps with accuracy. The configuration of the ground, the aspect, and consequently the composition of the stock were found to vary so continually and so abruptly that to show these variations in detail was a hopeless task. Moreover, it was found that these maps, even when carefully and well done, did not, in the absence of descriptions of blocks and compartments, without enumeration surveys, afford sufficient data to enable one to draw up a satisfactory scheme of working. Thus, the quantity of sound mature timber available remained altogether unknown; and even the areas in which fellings were advisable could not be

distinguished. The long lines used to show the presence of mature timber for instance in one ravine, stretched perforce over several adjoining ones, in which perhaps there was no timber present; and whether the mature timber, the presence of which was thus denoted, was sound or unsound, or whether it was advisable to fell it, and in what quantity, there was nothing to show. The utility of such maps for irregularly stocked forests situated on broken hilly ground is therefore very doubtful, and their preparation may well be confined to more regularly stocked forests of trees of even age, where the composition and density of the crop and the dominant age classes can be with advantage and accuracy laid down on the map.

iii. It was not until much valuable time had been expended that it was decided that "improvement fellings" here did not satisfactorily meet the case; that there was available a considerable amount of sound mature timber, and that it was desirable to ascertain exactly where this was situated and in what quantity; that the bulk of material which "improvement fellings" would yield was unsaleable; that the areas to be felled over annually would be much too large, and that the only proper method of treatment was that of "selection." Accordingly enumeration surveys were carried out over all places in which mature timber, not already enumerated, was thought to be present; and here again the stock maps first made proved of little use, and many places were enumerated which were not worth the time and money expended on them.

iv. It was then that the preparation of the more useful stock maps, made for the working-plans of the Garhwál and Ganges division, was taken in hand and at the same time a description of the stock in each compartment was drawn up. The chief object aimed at in these stock maps was to show where the sound mature timber was situated, and consequently where enumeration surveys could be made with advantage; and after that to show roughly the distribution of the main types of forest growth throughout the area dealt with, and thus to enable one to classify the forest according to the method of treatment which might best be applied to each differently constituted type. The types or classes of forest recognised were—

A.—Sál forest with trees of all ages in which sound mature timber is present.

BI.—Sál forest in which there is very little sound mature timber remaining.

BII.—Sál forest principally composed of trees of the younger classes.

C.—Forest in which, owing to the present condition of the stock, felling cannot be recommended.

v. The stock map work should be done before the enumeration surveys are undertaken, and should be well checked by the officer in charge. It does

not, as a rule, answer to do the stock mapping at the same time as the enumeration work, as the man in charge, anxious to get through the enumeration work as quickly as he can, or to get out of it where possible, is tempted to classify as B forest, which should be classified as A.

vi. In the Garhwál division we fell into a mistake exactly in the opposite direction to that made in Kumaun, and enumerated nearly the whole area of the Kotah range before conclusions were arrived at that here "improvement fellings" and an indefinite volume of material to be removed in them, according to the needs of the growing stock, was the correct method of treatment. But in this case there was not much cause for regret, inasmuch as the results of enumeration surveys cannot fail to be instructive and useful even where, owing to the state of the forest growth, they may not be actually required.

vii. From what has been noted above, it is to be concluded that it is a matter of the first importance as well as of great difficulty to settle the best method of examination of an area (especially if this be large and irregularly stocked) for which a working plan is in contemplation. In the case of the Kumaun division, a great part of the work done during the first season was wasted.

ENUMERATION SURVEYS.

viii. The knowledge which we already possessed of the composition of the sál forests of Kumaun and Garhwál, gained in the preparations of and from the enumeration surveys made for Mr. Hearle's working-plan for the Nindhaur valley and Mr. Dansey's working-plan for the North Patli Dún, was considerable. In the enumeration work for these plans all sál and sain trees above 18 inches in girth had been counted. The results showed that nearly everywhere the 3rd and 4th class sál trees were very largely in excess of the 1st and 2nd-class trees. Thus, in the Nindhaur working circle the figures were—

Sál.

1st class.	2nd class.	3rd class.	4th class.
27,435	61,210	189,668	249,973

and in the North Patli Dún—

Sál.

1st class.	2nd class.	3rd class.	4th class.
86,204	167,625	378,543	644,584

From this it was evident that the future of the forests was assured, and that, after the lapse of a period sufficiently long to allow the 2nd-class trees to become mature, the yield of the forests would be very largely increased. This being so, in the enumeration surveys made for the new plans it was considered sufficient to count the 1st and 2nd-class trees only, these forming the stock of material, mature or approaching maturity, which we were justified in considering available for consumption during the period required for the constitution of a fresh stock of mature trees.

ix. The best number of men for an enumeration party was found to be 12, *viz.*, two men to keep the line on either side, eight gauge men to measure and call out the trees, and two recorders to write the trees down as they are called out. As many as 20 men in line were tried, but it was found that the long line soon become unmanageable, and that it is not advisable to employ more than 10 men in line with the two recorders to look after them. A little drilling of the line soon brings the men into order. The two linemen should keep calling to each other so that they may keep proper distance a part; they should lightly blaze the trees as they pass, so that there may be no difficulty in finding the line again when required. The gauge men should be taught to keep touch by the right or left, as the case may be. They should march about a chain apart from each other, but this distance will vary with the density of the forest. Each tree as it is found is measured at about breast height by the gauge man, and blazed with an axe at the place where it is measured. The gauges are divided into parts six inches long, each part being a different colour and representing the different classes, *viz.*:

1st class.	2nd class.	3rd class.	4th class.
Over 6' in girth.	4' 6" to 6' in girth.	3' to 4' 6" in girth.	1' 6" to 3' in girth.

so that the gauge man has but to call out the kind of tree and the colour shown on the measuring gauge; he also calls out whether the tree is sound or not. The men should be made to call out the tree in a loud voice, and the recorder to repeat the particulars after them, showing that they have correctly recorded the tree called out. The best method of recording the tree was found to be by dots thus each group forming 10 trees. The blazes on the trees should be made lightly on the bark, sufficiently deep for the mark to remain for some time, but not sufficient to cause a wound to the tree. The coolies are very fond of making deep cuts into the wood, if not prevented. The blazes on the trees should be made on the side in the direction of which the party is advancing, so that a glance behind shows whether any particular tree has been counted or not.

In hilly ground the line should advance along the contours of the slopes, and not up and down, as in this manner the walking is easier and more work can be done.

It was found that working with 12 men in the manner above indicated, for eight hours a day, an average area of 100 acres could be surveyed.

x. To ensure the accuracy of enumeration surveys is a difficult matter. There are many causes of error, such as—

- (a) mistakes may be made in the boundaries of compartments ;
- (b) trees are left out owing to the men in the line getting too far apart ;
- (c) mistakes are made in classifying the trees into sound and unsound ;
- (d) forest, the trees in which ought to be counted, is omitted altogether, owing to wrong classification, or laziness ;
- (e) the men, for pure mischief, will call out trees which do not exist.

xi. In order to test the accuracy of the work, check surveys must be frequently carried out. To enable these to be done without too much expense of money or time, the forest should be divided up into compartments or sub-compartments of not more than 300 acres ; better even smaller : for to check a compartment of 300 acres will take at least three days. When there are many hands at work, it is a good plan to have a separate gang of men under a reliable officer employed entirely on checking the work of the others.

xii. The classification of the trees into sound and unsound is a fertile cause of error, and this alone may often vitiate the calculations made in a working-plan. A tree which appears perfectly sound from outside, and which rings true to the blow of an axe, not unfrequently proves rotten and useless when cut. One can but continually impress upon the men the importance of correctly classifying the trees. Another point is that trees, though not hollow, may be so crooked and stunted as to be quite useless for timber ; all such trees should be written down unsound.

xiii. The pay of line and gauge men was Rs. 5 a month during the cold weather, November to March, and Rs. 6 during April and May, during which months it is very difficult to keep the work going. The recorders were paid Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a month. When a forest-ranger was in charge he himself acted as a recorder.

The average expenditure per 100 acres enumerated has been calculated to have been Rs. 3-12-0, exclusive of the salaries of forest-rangers and other subordinates employed.

REFERENCE TO ORDERS ON WHICH RULES IN PART III ARE BASED.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	AUTHORITY.
1	2	3	4
65	I	1	C. C.'s Cir. No. 7G., dated 19th February 1890.
<i>ib.</i>	"	1 & 2	" " " 26A., " 10th August 1891.
66	"	2	" " " 37A., " 17th October "
67	"	3	" " " 17A., " 6th May 1895.
68	"	4	F. and C. D. Res. No. 1360A., dated 31st March 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	5	R. and A. D. " " 5F., " 21st " "
69	"	6	F. and C. D. Res. No. 2225A., dated 18th May 1897.
<i>ib.</i>	"	7	" " " " 2162Ex., " 30th April 1894.
<i>ib.</i>	"	8	C. C.'s Cir. No. 20G., " 15th May 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	9	" " " 19A., " 8th " 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	10	R. and A. D. Cir. No. $\frac{6}{127-1}$ F., " 2nd " 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	11	Cons.'s " " 30, " 23rd November 1886.
<i>ib.</i>	"	12	" " " 36, " 6th January 1887.
<i>ib.</i>	"	13	Civil Account Code, Vol. I, Chap. 23.
<i>ib.</i>	"	14	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s No. 16/I, dated 1st November 1888.
71	"	15	C. C.'s letter No. $\frac{211-\text{Forests}}{3873}$ B., " 17th September 1896.
72	"	16	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s No. 1483, " 24th August 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	17	C. C.'s Cir. No. 55B., " 7th October "
<i>ib.</i>	"	18	Cons.'s " " 7, " 7th April 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	19	C. C.'s letter " 717G.R., " 26th May 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	20	" " " 1017, " 11th April 1887.
<i>ib.</i>	"	21	Cons.'s Cir. " 5, " 17th May 1886.
<i>ib.</i>	"	22	Mily. D. letter " 770F., " 27th October 1887.
<i>ib.</i>	"	23	" " " 2447F., " 29th " 1888.
73	"	24	Cons.'s Cir. " 19, " 4th " 1887.
<i>ib.</i>	"	25	R. and A. D. Cir. " $\frac{16}{22-12}$ F., " 10th September 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	26	Cons.'s Cir. " 5, " 2nd May 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	27	" " " 57, " 24th November 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	28	Manual of Executive Rules, 1, VII, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	29	" " " 9, VII, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	30	" " " 23, VIII, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	31	" " " 26, 26A, VIII, IV.
74	"	32	C. C.'s Res. No. $\frac{321F. \& C.}{7891}$ R., dated 14th October 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	33	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s No. 2386, dated 18th March 1884.
<i>ib.</i>	"	34	" " " " 963, " 17th July 1886.
<i>ib.</i>	"	35	Cons.'s Cir. No. 78, dated 28th March 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	36	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s No. 1077, dated 2nd August 1890.
<i>ib.</i>	"	37	Cons.'s Cir. No. 67, dated 4th March 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	38	" " " 15, " 4th May 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	39	" " " 17, " 9th " "
<i>ib.</i>	"	40	" " " 48, " 30th August 1895.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	AUTHORITY.
1	2	3	4
75	I	32	Cons.'s Cir. No. 57, dated 3rd October 1895.
ib.	"	33	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 9F., dated 7th March 1891.
89	"	34	C. C.'s letter " 958, " 17th April 1879, to Dy. Comr., Gáro Hills
ib.	"	35	F. and C. D. Res. No. 2139, " 11th August 1879.
90	"	36	C. C.'s Cir. No. 23, dated 28th September 1881, and No. 39R., dated 10th August 1896.
ib.	"	37	{ C. C.'s letter No. $\frac{91\text{-Forests}}{2774}$ R., dated 24th July 1895. R. and A. D. Cir. No. 13F.—63-2, dated 12th July 1897.
ib.	"	38	C. C.'s Cir. No. 31, " 19th " 1888.
ib.	"	39	C. C.'s letter No. 10A., dated 4th January 1892, to Comr.
ib.	"	40	" " " 1185, " 26th April 1889.
ib.	"	41	" " " $\frac{83\text{-Forests}}{1656}$ R., " 8th May 1896.
91	"	42	F. and C. D. Res. No. 3531A., dated 11th August 1897.
ib.	II	1	Manual of Executive Rules 1, 2, XIII, IV.
ib.	"	2	{ C. C.'s Cir. No. 33G., dated 12th June 1890, Ex. R. 2, XIII, IV. " " " 51G., " 9th August 1890.
92	"	3	Forest Department Code, Secs. 153, 155, and 156 to 161.
ib.	"	4	C. C.'s Cir. No. 59G., dated 21st October 1893.
ib.	"	5	" " " 3G., " 17th January 1894, Ex. R. 10, II, X.
93	III	1	" " " 6R., " 25th " 1894, " 12, XII, I.
ib.	"	2	{ Manual of Executive Rules IV, II. C. C.'s Cir. No. 39, " dated 17th May 1889.
ib.	"	3	" " " 24J., " 13th July 1891, Ex. R. 6, III, II.
ib.	"	4	{ Comr.'s " 822LR., " 11th June 1892, to Secy. to C. C. C. C.'s " 2917R., " 28th " 1892.
94	"	5	Cons.'s Cir. " 58, " 10th January 1895.
ib.	"	6	" " " 33, " 9th August 1888.
ib.	"	7	C. C.'s Cir. " 10J., " 17th April 1893, Ex. R. 1, XIII, I.
ib.	"	8	{ " Not. " 5738R., " 1st November 1892. " letter " $\frac{30\text{-Forests}}{1127}$ R., dated 16th February 1893.
95	"	9	" letter " 2452, " 15th October 1885.
ib.	"	10	{ R. and A. D. Cir. No. 10F., " 8th June 1888. C. C.'s letter " 2114, " 18th July 1888.
ib.	"	11	Cons.'s Cir. " 23, " 30th November 1887.
ib.	"	12	{ C. C.'s Cir. No. 23R., " 10th June 1897. Cons.'s " " 35, " 21st August " C. C.'s letter No. 217 Forests—2408R., dated 27th December 1897.
ib.	IV	1	{ C. C.'s letter No. 1612, dated 8th June 1888. Cons.'s Cir. " 18, " 9th " "
96	"	2	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 8-F., dated 21st May 1895.
ib.	"	3	C. C.'s letter No. $\frac{88\text{-Forests}}{3628}$ R., dated 9th September 1895.
ib.	"	4	" " " 1774R., " 26th June 1888.
ib.	"	5	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 3F., dated 18th February 1888.
ib.	"	6	Cons.'s " " 35, " 4th December 1885.

REFERENCE TO ORDERS ON WHICH RULES IN PART III ARE BASED. iii

Page.	Section.	Rule.	Authority.
1	2	3	4
96	IV	7(a)	C. C.'s letter No. 590, dated 22nd February 1888, to Comr.
97	"	7(b)	" " " 1894, " 8th November 1882, " "
ib.	"	7(c)	" " " 1422R., " 11th April 1891, to Dy. Comr., Sylhet.
ib.	"	7(d)	" " " 40 Rev. 204 R., dated 24th July 1897, " "
			" " " 95, " 13th January 1885.
			" " " 4472, " 23rd December 1886.
			" " " 1210, " 19th May 1884, to Comr.
			" " " 1086R., " 1st April 1890, " "
			" " " 2675, " 1st July 1886, " "
ib.	"	7(e)	" " " 2028, " 10th " 1888, " "
			" " " 244R., " 3rd February 1890, to Comr.
			" " " 3062R., " 11th August 1891, " "
98	"	7(f)	" Cir. " 62, " 21st December 1887.
ib.	"	8	" letter " 7925G., " 23rd September 1890, to Dy. Comr., Naga Hills.
ib.	"	9	C. C.'s letter No. $\frac{187\text{-Forests}}{3960}$ R., dated 23rd September 1896.
99	V	1	" D. P. W. " 36, " 30th June 1882.
ib.	"	2	" Not. " 2844J., " 4th " 1895.
			Cons.'s Cir. " 30, " 13th " 1895.
100	"	3	Cons.'s Cir. " 64, " 20th February 1893.
ib.	VI	1	H. D. Public " $\frac{5\text{-Pub.}}{854}$, " 9th May 1894.
ib.	"	2	C. C.'s " $\frac{13\text{-Misc.}}{315-17}$ G., " 9th January 1894, Ex. R. IA, II, XI.
ib.	"	3	Cons.'s Cir. " 41, dated 27th August 1890.
ib.	"	4	" " " 68, " 8th March 1893.
ib.	"	5	" " " 11, " 5th May 1896.
101	"	6	" " " 89, " 25th February 1896.
ib.	"	7	Manual of Executive Rules 5, II, XI.
			Cons.'s Cir. No. 37, dated 1st July 1895.
ib.	VII	1	Appendix to the Forest Code.
			C. C.'s Not. No. 3112G., dated 18th May 1896.
			" " " 1666G., " 24th March 1896.
ib.	"	2	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 1F., dated 11th February 1895.
			Cons.'s " " 16, " 23rd May 1895.
			I. G. F.'s " " 8, " 11th " 1895.
102	"	3	Appendix to the Forest Code.
ib.	VIII	1	C. C.'s Not. No. 144R., dated 15th January 1896.
104	IX	1	" Cir. " 21, " 21st May 1887.
			" " " 24, " 11th June 1887.
105	"	2, 3	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 5F., dated 27th April 1887.
113	"	4	C. C.'s Cir. No. 14R., dated the 20th March 1897.
ib.	X	1	Cons.'s " " 1, " 14th April 1897.
			Cons.'s " " 36, " 5th September 1892.
			C. C.'s " " 134G., " 29th March 1888.
			" " " 1607, " 7th June 1887.
ib.	"	2 to 5	" " " 41R., " 9th " 1876.
			" letter, " 1615, " 8th " 1888.
			" " " 2875, " 13th July 1886.
119	XI	1	Manual of Executive Rules 1, XVII, IV.
ib.	"	2	" " " 1, II, V.
			C. C.'s Cir. No. 7G., dated 13th February 1892, Ex. R. 4, II, V.
120	"	3	" " " 37G., " 27th July 1896.

iv REFERENCE TO ORDERS ON WHICH RULES IN PART III ARE BASED.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	AUTHORITY.
1	2	3	4
120	XI	4	Manual of Executive Rules 5, and 5A. II, V.
ib.	"	5	" " " " 7, II, V.
ib.	"	6	F. and C. D. Res. No. 2951, dated 29th September 1879.
ib.	"	7	C. C.'s Cir. " 51G., " 27th September 1893, Ex. R. 6, II, V.
ib.	"	8	" " " 3G., " 19th January 1892, } Ex. R. 8, II, V.
121	"	9	" " " 57G., " 30th October 1896, } Ex. R. 9, II, V.
ib.	"	10	" " " 16G., " 13th March 1884, Ex. R. 10, II, V.
ib.	"	11	" " " 34G., " 12th June 1890, Ex. R. 10, II, V.
ib.	"	12	Manual of Executive Rules 11, III, VI.
ib.	"	13	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s Cir. No. 940, dated 17th August 1883.
122	"	14	Civil Service Regulations, Art. 83-A.
ib.	"	15	Cons.'s Cir. No. 52, dated 22nd November 1892.
ib.	"	16	" " " 6, " 30th April 1895.
ib.	"	17	" " " 7 and 7A., " 28th " 1896.
ib.	"	18	" " " 28, " 12th July 1888.
123	XII	1	H. D. " " 6-Pub. 626, " 14th April 1895, Ex. R. 10A., III, V.
ib.	"	2	C. C.'s " " 75, " 7th September 1889, " 11, III, V.
ib.	"	3	C. C.'s Cir. No. 38G., dated 5th September 1895, Ex. R. 12A., III, V.
125	"	4	Cons.'s " " 54, " 16th " "
ib.	"	5	H. R. & A. D. Pub. Res. No. 37-Public 1389-1404 dated 1st July 1879, Ex. R. 12, 12A., 13, III, V.
ib.	"	6	F. and C. D. Res. No. 546, dated 31st January 1888, Ex. R. 15, 26, III, V.
ib.	"	7	Ex. R. 17, III, V.
126	"	8	C. C.'s Cir. No. 6R., dated 15th February 1890, Ex. R. 19, III, V.
ib.	"	9	" " " 32G., " 14th July 1884, Ex. R. 20, III, V.
ib.	"	10	" " " 38G., " " " Ex. R. 21, III, V.
ib.	"	11	" " " 16R., " 1st March 1876, Ex. R. 22, III, V.
ib.	"	12	" " " 30R., " 9th June 1877
ib.	"	13	H. D. Res. " 4952-60, " 28th October 69, Ex. R. 23, III, V.
ib.	"	14	" " " 1899, " 25th April 1872.
ib.	"	15	Cons.'s Cir. " 28, " 8th August 1892.
ib.	"	16	Ex. R. 24, III, V.
ib.	"	17	H. D. Res. No. 29 1770-9, " 8th October 1889, Ex. R. 25, III, V.
ib.	"	18	C. C.'s Cir. " 35G., " 13th June 1890, Ex. R. 29, III, V.
128	"	19	" " " 30G., " 30th " 1893, Ex. R. 31, III, V.
ib.	"	20	" " " 55G., " 9th October 1893.
ib.	"	21	" " " 15G., " 2nd May 1888, Ex. R. 44, IV, V.
ib.	"	22	Cons.'s " " 53, " 11th September 1895.
ib.	"	23	C. C.'s " " 47G., and 48G., dated 13th September 1893.
ib.	"	24	" " " 18G., dated 9th May 1888, Ex. R. 1, VI, V.
ib.	"	25	" letter " 1481A., dated 12th September 1890, Ex. R. 2, VI, V.
ib.	"	26	" " " 1456-Misc. 5880-5913 G., dated 23rd October 1895, Ex. R. 9, VI, X.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	AUTHORITY.
1	2	3	4
128	XII	19	Mily. D. Cir. Clause 73, dated 15th May 1893, Ex. R. 9, VI, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " " 20 P., " 9th September 1890, Ex. R. 9, VI, X.
129	"	20	C. C.'s " No. 30A., " 18th August 1891, Ex. R. 20, VIII, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	21	" " " 25A., " 3rd " " Ex. R. 2, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	22	" " " 33R., " 10th December 1885, Ex. R. 8, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 68R., " 16th July 1889, Ex. R. 8, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 29R., " 30th May 1890, " " R. 8,
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	Cons.'s " " 39, " 26th August 1890, Ex. R. 8, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s letter " 4794-4825R., dated 19th September 1892, Ex. R. 8, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	23	Ex. R. 9, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	24 & 25	C. C.'s Cir. No. 22R., dated 19th April 1883, Ex. R. 3, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 68R., " 16th July 1889, " "
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 29R., " 30th May 1890, " "
<i>ib.</i>	"	26	Ex. R. 6, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s Cir. No. 29R., dated 30th May 1890.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 44R., " 11th September 1893, Ex. R. 6, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 24R., " 11th May 1894, " 6, X, X.
130	"	27	" " " 68R., " 16th July 1889, " 7, X, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 36R., " 21st September 1894.
131	"	28	Cons.'s, " 58, " 4th November 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " 34, " 27th September 1894.
<i>ib.</i>	"	29	C. C.'s letter No. 4833G., dated 31st August 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	30	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 21F., dated 14th July 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	31	Mily. D. " " 207G., " 17th April 1889.
<i>ib.</i>	"	32	I. G. F.'s D. O. " " 6, " 15th June 1891.
132	"	33	Cons.'s " " 38, " 12th September 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	34	Ditto " " 12, " 20th May 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	35	Ditto " " 17, " 24th " "
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s letter " 726, " 11th March 1885.
<i>ib.</i>	"	36	Cons.'s Cir. " 21, " 1st June 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	37	" " " 41, " 5th August 1896.
133	"	38	" " " 24, " 11th June 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 558, dated 30th May 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	Cons.'s Cir. " 29, " 4th July 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s letter " 815, " 29th June "
<i>ib.</i>	"	39	Cons.'s Cir. No. 53, dated 12th September 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	40	" " " 33, " 15th July 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 943, dated 9th July 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	41	Cons.'s Cir. No. 32, dated 19th June 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	XIII	1	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 16F., dated 7th June 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	2	C. C.'s " " 9G., " 17th March 1888, Ex. R. 11, III, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	3	" memo. No. ^{2546-Misc.} _{562-628-G} , dated 18th January 1894, Ex. R. 2 & 2A., III, XI.
134	"	4	" Cir. No. 45R., dated 6th August 1875, Ex. R. 8, III, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	5	Ex. R. 4, III, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s Cir. No. 59R., dated 24th December 1879, Ex. R. 4, III, XI.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	Authority.
1	2	3	4
134	XIII	6	Manual of Executive Rules, Sec. III, Chap. XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	7	Conservator's Office Order.
<i>ib.</i>	"	8	Manual of Executive Rules 21, III, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s Res. No. 1812, dated 29th December 1881.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" Cir. " 37R., " 5th September 1886.
<i>ib.</i>	"	9	Ex. R. 23, III, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	10	C. C.'s Cir. No. 42G., dated 23rd October 1894, Ex. R. 101A., IV, XI & 14A., III, XI.
135	"	11	" " " 17J., dated 21st December 1882, Ex. R. 3, IV, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 46R., " 6th September 1883, Ex. R. 3, IV, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	12	Manual of Executive Rules 5, IV, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s Cir. No. 40R., dated 10th July 1890.
<i>ib.</i>	"	13	Ex. R. 1, VI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	14	Ex. R. 2, VI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	15	" 3, VI, X.
<i>ib.</i>	"	16	" 4, VI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	17	C. C.'s Cir. No. 29G., dated 3rd July 1894, Ex. R. 1, VIII, X.
136	"	18	Bengal Stationery Manual, Ex. R. 32, IX, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s Cir. No. 50G., dated 7th October 1887, Ex. R. 32, IX, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	19	Bengal Stationery Manual, Ex. R. 33, IX, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	Cons.'s Cir. No. 25, dated 25th July 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	20	" " " 9, " 16th June 1883.
<i>ib.</i>	"	21	Manual of Executive Rules, Sec. IX, Chap. XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	22	P. W. D. No. 1567, dated 14th July 1888, Ex. R. 1, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s Cir. No. 5G., dated 1st February 1889, Ex. R. 1, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	23	P. W. D. Cir. No. 1, dated 21st September 1874, Ex. R. 2, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	24	C. C.'s " " 6J., " 12th July 1880, Ex. R. 3, XI, XI.
137	"	25	" letter " 2893-2912G., dated 18th May 1888, Ex. R. 4, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	26	Manual of Executive Rules, Ex. R. 5, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	27	" " " 6, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	28	P. W. D. Cir. No. 1, dated 21st September 1874, Ex. R. 7, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	29	Indian Telegraph Guide, Section XXI, Ex. R. 8, XI, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	30	Cons.'s Cir. No. 10, dated 21st June 1883.
138	"	31	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 20F., dated 1st October 1894.
139	"	32	Cons.'s " " 40, " 25th January 1887.
<i>ib.</i>	"	33	C. C.'s letter No. ^{2490-Misc.} / _{11507-543-G} , dated 7th December 1893, Ex. R. 6A., III, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	34	Cons.'s Cir. No. 44, dated 14th August 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	35	C. C.'s " " 26R., dated 22nd June 1895, Ex. R. 13, VII, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	36	" " " 54J., " 16th December 1895.
141	"	37	" " " 38J., " 8th August 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	38	Cons.'s " " 22, " 1st June 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	XIV	1	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 2F., dated 16th January 1894.
<i>ib.</i>	"	2	F. and C. D. Res. No. 2881P., dated 1st July 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	3	" " " " 3369P., " 5th July 1894.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	AUTHORITY.
1	2	3	4
141	XIV	4	H. D. letter No. 19-Public—1594, dated 7th October 1895, Ex. R. 2B., I.
<i>ib.</i>	"	5	H. D. Res. No. $\frac{16 \text{ Public}}{14-8-83}$, dated 27th September 1895.
142	"	6	R. and A. D. Cir. No. $\frac{2}{98-1}$ F., dated 11th March 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " $\frac{8}{135-1}$ F., dated 18th June 1896.
143	XV	1	H. D. Res. No. $\frac{35-\text{Public}}{1701-1718}$, dated 8th November 1893, Ex. R. 1A., IV, V.
<i>ib.</i>	"	2	" " " $\frac{49}{1340}$, dated 7th August 1868, Ex. R. 22, XII, I.
<i>ib.</i>	"	3	" " " $\frac{12}{334-61}$, dated 16th August 1884, Ex. R. 10 III, VI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " $\frac{18}{614-26}$, dated 26th November 1884, Ex. R. 10, III, VI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " $\frac{11}{447-464}$, dated 26th November 1884, Ex. R. 10, III, VI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	4	Manual of Executive Rules, Sec. V, Chap. V.
<i>ib.</i>	"	5	Manual of Executive Rules, Sec. XI, Chap. IV.
<i>ib.</i>	XVI	1	C. C.'s Cir. No. $\frac{965-\text{Misc.}}{1683-69-G}$, dated 27th March 1895.
144	"	2	Cons.'s " " 7, dated 30th May 1884.
145	"	3	Part V, Chapter IV of the Forest Department Code.
<i>ib.</i>	"	4	Cons.'s Cir. No. 78, dated 8th February 1894.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 28, dated 7th June 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 40, dated 31st July 1896.
146	"	5	" " " 65, dated 26th December 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	6	C. C.'s " " 21G., dated 30th April 1894, Ex. R. 38A., IX, XI.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 25G., dated 18th June 1895.
147	"	7	Surgeon General's letter No. 1096, dated 18th March 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	8	Cons.'s Cir. No. 59, dated 14th January 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	9	" " " 66, dated 8th February 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	10	" " " 9, dated 20th June 1885.
<i>ib.</i>	"	11	" " " 7, dated 11th May 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 55, dated 9th January 1895.
148	"	12	" " " 71, dated 27th February 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 10, dated 2nd May 1896.
150	"	13	R. and A. D. Res. No. $\frac{654}{89}$, dated 14th March 1892, Ex. R. 8, IV, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s Cir. No. 2R., dated 13th January 1894.
151	"	14	Cons.'s " " 82, dated 6th March 1894.
<i>ib.</i>	XVII	1	C. C.'s Not. " 63, dated 17th December 1886.
<i>ib.</i>	"	2	Cons.'s Cir. " 14, dated 30th June 1886.
<i>ib.</i>	"	3	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 6F., dated 10th March 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 12F., dated 28th June 1893.
152	"	4	" " " 10F., dated 20th " "
153	"	5	Cons.'s " " 59, dated 4th January 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	6	Cons.'s Office Order.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	Authority.
1	2	3	4
153	XVII	7	C. C.'s Cir. No. 14R., dated 29th April 1892, Ex. R., I, II.
<i>ib.</i>	"	8	R. and A. D. Circular No. 33F., dated 8th October 1889.
154	"	9	C. C.'s Cir. No. 43R., dated 15th September 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	10	I. G. F.'s " " 2, dated 31st January 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 1, dated 6th January 1896.
155	"	11	Cons.'s " " 60, dated 15th December 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	12	" " " 7, dated 21st May 1885.
<i>ib.</i>	"	13	" " " 10, dated 15th May 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	14	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 25F., dated 13th August 1889.
156	"	15	Cons.'s Cir. No. 55, dated 9th November 1889.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	R. and A. D. Not. No. 42, dated 1st November 1889.
<i>ib.</i>	"	16	Cons.'s Cir. No. 75, dated 22nd March 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 71, dated 4th November 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " " 76, " 23rd " "
161	"	17	C. C.'s Cir. No. 51, dated 25th September 1879.
<i>ib.</i>	"	18	Cons.'s Cir. No. 13, dated 20th May 1889.
<i>ib.</i>	"	19	C. C.'s Cir. No. 264R., dated 17th January 1891.
<i>ib.</i>	"	20	H. D. Cir. No. 4F., dated 14th April 1883.
<i>ib.</i>	"	21	I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 5, dated 14th July 1897.
163	"	22	C. C.'s Cir. No. 32, dated 6th May 1889.
164	"	23	" " 52G., dated 26th September 1884, Ex. R., 10, XVI, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	24	I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 8, dated 9th September 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " 9, dated 11th May 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	25	R. and A. D. Cir. No. ⁶⁵⁴ / ₈₉ G., dated 14th March 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 14, dated 26th July 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	26	R. and A. D. Cir. No. 26-39-3, dated 28th September 1895, Ex. R. 7A., IV, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	27	C. C.'s Res. No. 51J., dated 11th June 1880, Ex. R, 1G., I, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" Note No. 149R., dated 9th January 1891, " I, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" letter No. 3083G., dated 7th May 1890 " 1G., I, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	28	" Res. No. 1812, dated 29th December 1881, " 7, I, IV.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	Cons.'s Cir. No. 20, dated 20th July 1882.
168	"	29	R. and A. D. Cir. 4F., dated 23rd April 1887.
<i>ib.</i>	"	30	C. C.'s Cir. No. 10R., dated 10th March 1896.
170	"	31	Cons.'s " 36, dated 15th February 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s letter No. 72T., dated 19th January 1888.
171	"	32	Cons'. Cir. No. 74, dated 12th March 1889.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " 5, dated 1st May 1889.
<i>ib.</i>	"	33	I. G. F.'s letter No. 29, dated 31st October 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	34	C. C.'s Cir. No. 52R., dated 30th September 1896.
172	"	35	Cons.'s Cir. No. 15, dated 4th May 1893.
			" " " 29, " 30th June 1893.
			" " " 48, " 12th October 1893.
174	XVIII	1	I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 12, dated 25th August 1886.
<i>ib.</i>	"	2	R. & A. D. Cir. No. 2F., dated 16th February 1888.
175	"	3	Cons.'s Cir. No. 37, dated 20th August 1888.
<i>ib.</i>	"	4	R. & A. D. Cir. No. 26F., dated 16th August 1889.
<i>ib.</i>	"	5	I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 20, dated 8th October 1889.
177	XIX	1 to 5	R. & A. D. Cir. No. ¹³ / ₆₃₋₂ F., dated 12th July 1897.
178	XX	1	Manual of Executive Rules, Section X, Chap. XI.
179	"	2	Cons.'s Cir. No. 5, dated 7th April 1893.
<i>ib.</i>	"	3	" " 6, " 19th May 1887.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	" " 50, " 7th September 1895.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	AUTHORITY.
1	2	3	4
179	XX	4	Cons.'s Cir. No. 23, dated 22nd July 1892.
ib.	"	"	" " 63, " 2nd November 1895.
180	"	5	" " 68, " 25th February 1895.
ib.	"	6	C. C.'s letter No. 4333, dated 14th December 1889.
183	"	7	Cons.'s Cir. No. 52, dated 31st December 1894.
ib.	"	8	" " 56, " 9th January 1895.
ib.	"	9	F. & C. D. Res. No. 4075S.R., dated 18th September 1893 (Ex. R. 10A., IX, XI).
ib.	"	10	C. C.'s Cir. No. 50, dated 18th June 1889.
ib.	XXI	1	" Not. No. 5814R., dated 27th December 1894.
ib.	"	"	" " 2348R., " 20th December 1897.
189	"	2	" Cir. No. 43R., dated 5th September 1893.
ib.	"	"	Cons.'s " No. 43, dated 21st September 1893.
ib.	"	"	" " 10, " 18th May 1895.
ib.	"	"	" " 24, " 4th June 1895.
ib.	"	"	" " 29, " 10th June 1895.
190	"	3	" " 37, " 29th July 1889.
194	"	4	" " 29, " 30th June 1893.
ib.	"	5	" " 2, " 7th April 1893.
ib.	"	5	C. C.'s Cir. No. $\frac{187\text{-Forest}}{3808\text{ R.}}$, dated 14th September 1896.
ib.	XXII	1	" letter No. 587P. S.—4088G., dated 23rd June 1896.
195	"	2	Cons.'s Cir. No. 30, dated 4th July 1896.
ib.	"	3	C. C.'s Cir. No. 19, dated 11th May 1887.
ib.	"	3	" letter No. $\frac{59\text{-Acct.}}{805}$ A., dated 3rd May 1893 (Ex. R., 5, XI, X).
ib.	"	4	" Cir. No. 52A., dated 12th August 1890 (Ex. R., 2, XI, X).
ib.	"	5	" " 26J., " 22nd June 1888 (Ex. R., 8, XI, X).
ib.	"	6	" " 25J., " 22nd June 1888 (Ex. R., 9, XI, X).
ib.	"	"	" " 26J., " 22nd June 1888 (Ex. R., 9, XI, X).
ib.	"	7	F. & C. D. Res. No. 1603Ex., dated 10th April 1896.
ib.	"	"	C.C.'s Cir. No. $\frac{506\text{-Acct.}}{1079}$ R., dated 4th August 1896.
ib.	"	"	" letter No. $\frac{557\text{-Acct.}}{1194}$ A., " 26th August 1896.
ib.	"	"	Cons.'s Cir. No. 42, dated 7th August 1896.
196	"	8	" " 45, " 30th March 1887.
ib.	"	9	C. C.'s Res. No. 2727G., dated 1st June 1883 (Ex. R., 6, II, XI).
ib.	"	10	" letter No. 166G.R., dated 24th January 1889 (Ex. R., 3, XI, X).
ib.	"	"	Cons.'s Cir. No. 72, dated 7th March 1889.
ib.	"	"	" " 9, " 11th May 1894.
ib.	"	"	" " 9, " 5th May 1897.
ib.	"	11	" " 53, " 8th January 1895.
ib.	"	"	" " 60, " 14th January 1895.
ib.	"	12	" " 83, " 2nd January 1896.
ib.	"	13	C. C.'s Cir. No. 17G., dated 10th May 1893 (Ex. R., 21, XV, V).
197	"	14	" " 13G., " 8th April 1892 (Ex. R., 6, XV, VI).
ib.	"	"	" " 38P.W.D., dated 21st December 1888.
ib.	"	15	Cons.'s " 2, dated 26th April 1883.
ib.	"	16	R. & A. D. Cir. No. 19F., dated 29th June 1892.
ib.	"	17	Cons.'s Cir. No. 35, dated 7th March 1885.
ib.	"	18	" " 44, " 15th October 1892.

X REFERENCE TO ORDERS ON WHICH RULES IN PART III ARE BASED.

Page.	Section.	Rule.	AUTHORITY.
1	2	3	4
197	XXII	18	C. C.'s letter No. 5162R., dated 10th October 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	19	Cons.'s Cir. No. 55, dated 5th December 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C.C.'s letter No. 1079C.G., dated 25th November 1892.
<i>ib.</i>	"	20	" " $\frac{367-\text{Acet.}}{1002 \text{ R.}}$ " 22nd June 1893.
198	"	21	Cons.'s Cir. No. 99, dated 24th March 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	"	22	" " 87, dated 12th February 1896.
<i>ib.</i>	XXIII	1	Forest Department Code, 4th Edition, sections 82 to 92.
<i>ib.</i>	"	2	H. D. Cir. No. 21F., dated 6th December 1884.
201	"	3	I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 6.W.P., dated 11th May 1896.
202	"	4	R. & A. D. Cir. No. 6F., dated 12th March 1888.
203	"	5	I. G. F.'s " 12W. P., dated 29th October 1894.
<i>ib.</i>	"	"	C. C.'s letter No. $\frac{222-\text{Forests}}{4365}$ R., dated 2nd November 1895.
<i>ib.</i>	"	6	I. G. F.'s letter No. 795, dated 14th September 1896.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSERVATOR'S ORDERS EMBODIED IN
PART III OF THE MANUAL.

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1868.				
H. D. Res. No. $\frac{49}{1340}$, dated 7th August 1868.	XV	2	143
1869.				
H. D. Res. No. 4952-60, dated 28th October 1869.	XII	11	127
1872.				
H. D. Res. No. 1899, dated 25th April 1872.	XII	11	127
1874.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 1P.W.D., dated 21st September 1874.	XIII	23 & 28	{ 136 137
1875.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 45R., dated 6th August 1875.	XIII	4	134
1876.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 16R., dated 1st March 1876.	XII	10	127
C. C.'s Cir. No. 91R., dated 9th June 1876.	X	2	113
1877.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 30R., dated 9th June 1877.	XII	10	127

xii GOVERNMENT AND CONSERVATOR'S ORDERS EMBODIED IN PART III.

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1879.				
C. C.'s memorandum No. 958, dated 17th April 1879.	.....	I	34	89
F. & C. D. Res. No. 2139, dated 11th August 1879.	.....	I	35	89
C. C.'s Cir. No. 51, dated 25th September 1879.	No. 49, dated 23rd February 1880.	XVII	17	161
F. & C. D. Res. No. 2951, dated 29th September 1879.	.....	XI	6	120
C. C.'s Cir. No. 59R., dated 24th December 1879.	.....	XIII	5	134
1880.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 6J., dated 12th July 1880.	.....	XIII	24	136
1881.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 28R., dated 28th September 1881.	.....	I	36	90
C. C.'s Res. No. 1812, dated 29th December 1881.	}	XIII	8	134
		XVII	28	164
1882.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 36, P. W. D., dated 30th June 1882.	.....	V	1	99
C. C.'s Res. No. 1812, dated 29th December 1881.	No. 20, dated 20th July 1882.	{ XVII XIII	28	164
C. C.'s letter No. 1894, dated 8th November 1882.		IV	7(b)	97
H. R. and A. D. Res. No. ^{37-Pub.} 1389-1404, dated 1st July 1879.	No. 35, dated 30th December 1882.	XII	4	125
C. C.'s Cir. No. 17J., dated 21st December 1882.	.....	XIII	11	135
1883.				
	No. 2, dated 26th April 1883.	XXII	15	197
	No. 9, dated 16th June 1883.	XIII	20	136
	No. 10, dated 21st June 1883.	XIII	30	137
C. C.'s Res. No. 2727-G., dated 1st June 1883.	.....	XXII	9	196
Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s No. 940, dated 17th August 1883.	No. 18, dated 23rd August 1883.	XI	12	121
C. C.'s Cir. No. 46R., dated 6th September 1883.	.....	XIII	11	135

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1884.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 6R., dated 25th January 1884.	No. 42, dated 31st January 1884.	III	1	93
C. C.'s Cir. No. 16G., dated 13th March 1884.	.....	XI	9	121
Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s No. 2386, dated 18th March 1884.	No. 47, dated 25th March 1884.	I	24	74
	No. 7, dated 30th May 1884.	XVI	2	144
C. C.'s letter No. 1210, dated 19th May 1884.	.....	IV	7(e)	97
C. C.'s Cir. No. 32G., dated 14th July 1884.	No. 12, dated 31st July 1884.	XII	8	126
C. C.'s Cir. No. 33G., dated 14th July 1884.	No. 13, dated 31st July 1884.	XII	9	126
C. C.'s Cir. No. 52G., dated 26th September 1884.	... ..	XVII	23	164
H. D. Res. No. $\frac{12}{334-51}$, dated 16th August 1884.	}	XV	3	143
H. D. Res. No. $\frac{18}{514-26}$, dated 26th November 1884.				
H. D. Res. No. $\frac{11}{447-464}$, dated 26th November 1884.				
1885.				
H. D. Cir. No. 21F., dated 6th December 1884.	No. 30, dated 9th January 1885.	XXIII	2	198
C. C.'s letter No. 95, dated 13th January 1885.	.....	IV	7(d)	97
	No. 35, dated 7th March 1885.	XXII	17	197
H. D. letter No. 4F., dated 14th April 1885.	No. 6, dated 19th May 1885.	XVII	20	161
	No. 7, dated 21st May 1885.	XVII	12	155
	No. 9, dated 20th June 1885.	XVI	10	147
C. C.'s letter No. 2452, dated 15th October 1885.	.....	III	9	95
	No. 35, dated 4th December 1885.	IV	6	96

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1886.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 33R., dated 10th December 1885.	No. 42, dated 6th January 1886.	XII	22	129
	No. 5, dated 17th May 1886.	I	15	72
	No. 14, dated 30th June 1886.	XVII	2	151
C. C.'s letter No. 2675R., dated 1st July 1886.	.....	IV	7(e)	97
Comp. & Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 963, dated 17th July 1886.	No. 18, dated 23rd July 1886.	I	25	74
C. C.'s letter No. 2875, dated 13th July 1886.	.....	X	2	113
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 12, dated 25th August 1886.	No. 26, dated 9th September 1886.	XVIII	1	174
	No. 30, dated 23rd November 1886.	I	8	69
C. C.'s letter No. 4472, dated 23rd December 1886.	.....	IV	7	96
1887.				
	No. 36, dated 6th January 1887.	I	9	69
C. C.'s Not. No. 63, dated 17th December 1886.	No. 37, dated 5th January 1887.	XVII	1	151
	No. 40, dated 25th January 1887.	XIII	32	139
	No. 45, dated 30th March 1887.	XXII	8	196
	No. 6, dated 19th May 1887.	XX	3	179
C. C.'s letter No. 1017, dated 11 April 1887.	.....	I	14	72
C. C.'s Cir. No. 21, dated 21st May 1887.	No. 13, dated 1st August 1887.	IX	2, 3—i to iii	105
C. C.'s Cir. No. 24, dated 11th June 1887.				
R. & A. D. Cir. No. 5F., dated 27th April 1887.	No. 19, dated 4th October 1887.	I	17	73
	.....	X	3	115
C. C.'s Cir. No. 1607, dated 7th June 1887.	No. 20, dated 10th November 1887.	XVII	21	161
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 5, dated 14th July 1887.	No. 23, dated 30th November 1887.	III	11	95
C. C.'s Cir. No. 50G., dated 7th October 1887.	.....	XIII	18	136

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
<p>R. & A. D. Cir. No. 4F., dated 23rd April 1887.</p> <p>C. C.'s letter No. 1273, dated 12th May 1887.</p> <p>Mily. Dept. letter No. 770F., dated 27th October 1887.</p> <p>C. C.'s letter No. 7129, dated 8th December 1887.</p> <p>C. C.'s Cir. No. 62, dated 21st December 1887.</p>	<p>No. 26, dated 6th January 1888.</p> <p>No. 33, dated 3rd February 1888.</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>XVII</p> <p>I</p> <p>IV</p>	<p>29</p> <p>16</p> <p>7(f)</p>	<p>168</p> <p>72</p> <p>98</p>
1888.				
<p>C. C.'s letter No. 72T., dated 19th January 1888.</p> <p>R. & A. D. Cir. No. 2F., dated 16th February 1888.</p> <p>C. C.'s letter No. 590, dated 22nd February 1888.</p> <p>C. C.'s Cir. No. 5, dated 2nd March 1888.</p> <p>E. & C. D. Res. No. 546, dated 31st January 1888.</p> <p>R. & A. D. Res. No. 3F., dated 18th February 1888.</p> <p>C. C.'s Cir. No. 134G., dated 29th March 1888.</p> <p>R. & A. D. Res. No. 6F., dated 12th March 1888.</p>	<p>No. 36, dated 15th February 1888.</p> <p>No. 39, dated 22nd March 1888.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>No. 41, dated 22nd March 1888.</p> <p>No. 42, dated 22nd March 1888.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>No. 4, dated 28th April 1888.</p> <p>No. 5, dated 2nd May 1888.</p> <p>No. 6, dated 2nd May 1888.</p> <p>No. 9, dated 12th May 1888.</p> <p>No. 10, dated 15th May 1888.</p> <p>No. 11, dated 22nd May 1888.</p> <p>No. 13, dated 26th May 1888.</p> <p>No. 15, dated 26th May 1888.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>No. 18, dated 9th June 1888.</p>	<p>XVII</p> <p>XVIII</p> <p>IV</p> <p>XII</p> <p>IV</p> <p>X</p> <p>XXIII</p> <p>I</p> <p>XV</p> <p>XIII</p> <p>XVII</p> <p>XIII</p> <p>XII</p> <p>XII</p> <p>I</p> <p>IV</p>	<p>31</p> <p>2</p> <p>7(a)</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>2</p> <p>4</p> <p>18</p> <p>4</p> <p>2</p> <p>13</p> <p>25</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>13</p> <p>1</p>	<p>170</p> <p>174</p> <p>96</p> <p>125</p> <p>96</p> <p>113</p> <p>202</p> <p>73</p> <p>143</p> <p>133</p> <p>155</p> <p>137</p> <p>128</p> <p>128</p> <p>72</p> <p>95</p>

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1888—contd.				
C. C.'s letter No. 1615, dated 8th June 1888.	.....	X	2	113
C. C.'s Cir. No. 25J., dated 22nd June 1888.	{ No. 23, dated 28th June 1888.	XXII	5 & 6	195
C. C.'s Cir. No. 26J., dated 22nd June 1888.				
	No. 28, dated 12th July 1888.	XI	15	122
C. C.'s letter No. 1774R., dated 26th June 1888.	No. 30, dated 14th July 1888.	IV	4	96
	No. 33, dated 9th August 1888.	III	6	94
R. & A. D. Cir. No. 10F., dated 8th June 1888.	{	III	10	95
C. C.'s letter No. 2114, dated 18th July 1888.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 31, dated 19th July 1888.	No. 35, dated 10th August 1888.	I	38	90
C. C.'s letter No. 2028, dated 10th July 1888.	.....	IV	7(e)	97
	No. 37, dated 20th August 1888.	XVIII	3	175
C. C.'s letter No. 4833G., dated 31st August 1888.	No. 46, dated 10th September 1888.	XII	29	131
C. C.'s Cir. No. 43R., dated 15th September 1888.	.....	XVII	9	154
Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s Cir. No. 1671, dated 1st November 1888.	No. 54, dated 21st November 1888.	I	10	69
	No. 57, dated 24th November 1888.	I	19	73
	No. 60, dated 15th December 1888.	XVII	11	155
Mily. D. Res. No. 2447F., dated 29th October 1888.	{ No. 63, dated 31st December 1888.	I	16	72
C. C.'s letter No. 7175-84, dated 11th December 1888.				
1889.				
C. C.'s No. 38-P.W.D., dated 21st December 1888.	No. 66, dated 19th January 1889.	XXII	14	197
P. W. D. Telegraph Cir. No. 1567, dated 14th July 1888.	{	XIII	22	136
C. C.'s Cir. No. 5G., dated 1st February 1889.				
C. C.'s letter No. 166R., dated 24th January 1889.	No. 72, dated 7th March 1889.	XXII	10	196
	No. 74, dated 12th March 1889.	XVII	32	171

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1889—contd.				
C. C.'s letter No. 1185, dated 26th April 1889.	.....	I	40	90
	No. 5, dated 1st May 1889.	XVII	32	171
C. C.'s Cir. No. 32, dated 6th May 1889.	No. 9, dated 13th May 1889.	XVII	22	163
	No. 13, dated 20th May 1889.	XVII	18	161
C. C.'s Cir. No. 39, dated 17th May 1889.	No. 16, dated 28th May 1889.	III	2	93
Mtly. D. Cir. No. 207G., dated 17th April 1889.	No. 17, dated 30th May 1889.	XII	31	131
C. C.'s Cir. No. 50, dated 18th June 1889.	.....	XX	10	183
	No. 37, dated 29th July 1889.	XXI	3	190
C. C.'s Cir. No. 75, dated 7th September 1889	No. 47, dated 14th September 1889.	XII	2	123
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 25F., dated 13th August 1889.	No. 48, dated 16th September 1889.	XVII	14	155
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 26F., dated 6th August 1889.	No. 50, dated 12th October 1889.	XVIII	4	175
C. C.'s Memo. No. 5961-95G, dated 27th September 1889.	No. 51, dated 15th October 1889.	XV	4	143
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 33F., dated 8th October 1889.	.....	XVII	8	153
R. and A. D. Not No. 42, dated 1st November 1889.	No. 55, dated 9th November 1889.	XVII	15	156
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 20, dated 8th October 1889.	No. 58, dated 26th November 1889.	XVIII	5	175
C. C.'s letter No. 4333, dated 14th December 1889.	.....	XX	6	180
1890.				
C. C.'s letter No. 8085-8119, dated 23rd December 1889.	No. 65, dated 8th January 1890.	XV	4	143
C. C.'s Cir. No. 19, dated 11th May 1887.	No. 67, dated 11th January 1890.	XXII	2	195
C. C.'s letter No. 244R., dated 3rd February 1890.	.....	IV	7(e)	97
C. C.'s Cir. No. 7G., dated 19th February 1890.	No. 72, dated 7th March 1890.	I	1	65
C. C.'s letter No. 1086R., dated 1st April 1890.	.....	IV	7(e)	97
C. C.'s letter No. 15G., dated 11th April 1890.	No. 8, dated 29th April 1890.	XV	4	143
C. C.'s letter No. 6R., dated 15th February 1890.	No. 13, dated 10th May 1890.	XII	7	126

xviii GOVERNMENT AND CONSERVATOR'S ORDERS EMBODIED IN PART III.

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1890—contd.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 24J., dated 13th May 1890.	No. 16, dated 20th May 1890.	XV	4	143
C. C.'s Cir. No. 33G., dated 12th June 1890.	No. 22, dated 23rd June 1890.	II	2	91
C. C.'s Cir. No. 35G., dated 13th June 1890.	No. 24, dated 25th June 1890.	XII	14	127
C. C.'s Cir. No. 34G., dated 12th June 1890.	No. 25, dated 9th July 1890.	XI	10	121
C. C.'s Cir. No. 40R., dated 10th July 1890.	No. 28, dated 17th July 1890.	XIII	12	35
Comp. & Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 1076, dated 2nd August 1890.	No. 33, dated 8th August 1890.	I	27	74
Comp. & Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 1077, dated 2nd August 1890.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 51G., dated 9th August 1890.	No. 34, dated 18th August 1890.	II	2	91
C. C.'s Cir. No. 52A., dated 12th August 1890.	No. 36, dated 22nd August 1890.	XXII	4	195
	No. 39, dated 26th August 1890.	XII	22	129
	No. 41, dated 27th August 1890.	VI	3	100
	No. 48, dated 16th October 1890.	XV	4	143
C. C.'s letter No. 7925G., dated 23rd September 1890.	.....	IV	8	98
Mily. D. Cir. No. 20P., dated 9th September 1890.	No. 50, dated 10th November 1890.	XII	19	128
C. C.'s letter No. 1481A., dated 12th September 1890.	.....	XII	18	128
H. D. Res. No. $\frac{29}{1770-9}$, dated 8th October 1889.	.....	XII	13	127
C. C.'s Res. No. 51J., dated 11th June 1880.	}	XVII	27	164
C. C.'s letter No. 3083G., dated 7th May 1890.				
C. C.'s Not. No. 149R., dated 9th January 1891.				
1891.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 264R., dated 17th January 1891.	.....	XVII	19	161
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 9F., dated 7th March 1891.	.....	I	33	75
C. C.'s letter No. 1422R., dated 11th April 1891.	.....	IV	7(c)	97
L. G. F.'s Cir. No. 6, dated 15th June 1891.	No. 5, dated 29th June 1891.	XII	32	131
C. C.'s Cir. No. 24J., dated 13th July 1891.	No. 9, dated 21st July 1891.	III	3	93
C. C.'s Cir. No. 25A., dated 3rd August 1891.	No. 12, dated 11th August 1891.	XII	21	129

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1891—contd.				
C. C.'s letter No. 3062R., dated 11th August 1891.	.....	IV	7(e)	97
C. C.'s Cir. No. 37A., dated 17th October 1891.	} No. 26, dated 30th October 1891.	I	1	65
C. C.'s Cir. No. 26A., dated 10th August 1891.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 30A., dated 18th August 1891.	.....	XII	20	129
1892.				
C. C.'s letter No. 10A., dated 4th January 1892.	No. 34, dated 17th January 1892.	I	39	90
C. C.'s Cir. No. 3G., dated 19th January 1892.	No. 37, dated 15th February 1892.	XI	8	120
C. C.'s Cir. No. 7G., dated 13th February 1892.	No. 39, dated 1st March 1892.	XI	3	120
R. and A. D. Res. No. $\frac{854}{89}$, dated 14th March 1892.	} No. 3, dated 13th April 1892.	XVI	13	150
C. C.'s Memo. No. 1362-75R., dated 5th April 1892.		XVII	25	164
C. C.'s Cir. No. 13G., dated 8th April 1892.	.....	XXII	14	197
C. C.'s Cir. No. 14R., dated 29th April 1892.	No. 8, dated 11th May 1892.	XVII	7	153
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 6F., dated 10th March 1892.	} No. 15, dated 10th June 1892.	XVII	3	151
C. C.'s Memo. No. 2560R., dated 6th June 1892.				
Comr.'s letter No. 822L.R., dated 11th June 1892.	} No. 17, dated 6th July 1892.	III	4	93
C. C.'s letter No. 2917R., dated 28th June 1892.				
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 16F., dated 7th June 1892.	} No. 20, dated 12th July 1892.	XIII	1	133
C. C.'s Memo. No. 2980R., dated 1st July 1892				
	No. 23, dated 22nd July 1892.	XX	4	179
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 19F., dated 29th June 1892.	No. 24, dated 25th July 1892.	XXII	16	197
	No. 25, dated 25th July 1892.	XIII	19	136
H. D. Cir. No. $\frac{12\text{-Pub.}}{1656-69}$ dated 31st May 1892.	} No. 28, dated 8th August 1892.	XV	4	143
C. C.'s Memo. No. 6482-95G., dated 27th July 1892.		XII	11	127

XX GOVERNMENT AND CONSERVATOR'S ORDERS EMBODIED IN PART III.

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1892—contd.				
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 21F., dated 14th July 1892.	) No. 31, dated 17th August 1892.	XII	30	131
C. C.'s Memo. No. 3715R., dated 10th August 1892.				
	No. 36, dated 5th September 1892.	X	1	113
	No. 38, dated 12th September 1892.	XII	33	132
I. G. F.'s Cir. D. O. No. 8, dated 9th September 1892.	No. 40, dated 27th September 1892.	XVII	24	164
C. C.'s letter No. 5162R., dated 10th October 1892.	No. 44, dated 15th October 1892.	XXII	18	197
	No. 52, dated 22nd November 1892.	XI	13	122
C. C.'s letter No. 1079C.G., dated 25th November 1892.	No. 55, dated 5th December 1892.	XXII	19	197
C. C.'s Not. No. 5738R., dated 1st November 1892.	.....	III	8	94
1893.				
	No. 59, dated 4th January 1893.	XVII	5	153
C. C.'s letter No. ^{30-Forest} _{1127-R.} , dated 16th February 1893.	.....	III	8	94
	No. 64, dated 20th February 1893.	V	3	100
	No. 67, dated 4th March 1893.	I	28	74
	No. 68, dated 8th March 1893.	VI	4	100
	No. 2, dated 7th April 1893.	XXI	4	194
	No. 5, dated 7th April 1893.	XX	2	179
	No. 7, dated 7th April 1893.	I	12	72
C. C.'s letter No. ^{791-2H.} _{2662R.} , dated 25th March 1893.	) No. 8, dated 10th April 1893.	XVI	7	147
Surg.-Genl. No. 1096, dated 18th March 1893.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 10J., dated 17th April 1893.	No. 14, dated 27th April 1893.	III	7	94
	No. 15, dated 4th May 1893.	{ I	29	74
	No. 17, dated 9th May 1893.			
	No. 22, dated 23rd May 1893.	XVII	35	172
C. C.'s Cir. No. 17G., dated 10th May 1893.		I	30	74
		XXII	13	196

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1893—contd.				
C. C.'s letter No. ^{59-Accts.} ₈₀₅ A., dated 3rd May 1893.	.....	XXII	3	195
C. C.'s letter No. ^{387-Accts.} ₁₀₀₂ A., dated 22nd June 1893.	No. 25, dated 25th June 1893.	XXII	20	197
	No. 29, dated 30th June 1893.	{ XXI	3	190
C. C.'s Cir. No. 30G., dated 30th June 1893.	No. 31, dated 12th July 1893.	XVII	35	172
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 12F., dated 28th June 1893.	No. 34, dated 25th July 1893.	XII	15	128
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 10F., dated 20th June 1893.	No. 36, dated 26th July 1893.	XVII	3	151
Mily. D. Cir. clause No. 73, dated 15th May 1893.	No. 37, dated 27th July 1893.	XVII	4	152
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 14, dated 26th July 1893.	No. 38, dated 14th August 1893.	XII	19	128
C. C.'s Cir. No. 48G., dated 13th September 1893	No. 44, dated 27th September 1893.	XVII	25	164
C. C.'s Cir. No. 43R., dated 5th September 1893.	No. 43, dated 21st September 1893.	XII	16	128
C. C.'s Cir. No. 47G., dated 13th September 1893.	No. 45, dated 27th September 1893.	XI	7	120
C. C.'s Cir. No. 51G., dated 27th September 1893.	No. 47, dated 10th October 1893.	XVII	35	172
	No. 48, dated 12th October 1893.	XX	9	183
F. and C. D. Res. No. 4075S.R., dated 18th September 1893.	No. 49, dated 23rd October 1893.	XII	15	128
C. C.'s Cir. No. 55G., dated 9th Oc- tober 1893.	No. 50, dated 27th October 1893.	I	23	74
C. C.'s Res. No. ^{321F. & C.} ₇₉₉₁ R., dated 14th October 1893.	No. 51, dated 27th October 1893.	II	4	92
C. C.'s Cir. No. 59G., dated 21st October 1893.	No. 56, dated 30th October 1893.	XII	28	131
	No. 58, dated 4th November 1893.	XVII	33	171
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 29, dated 31st October 1893.	No. 59, dated 23rd November 1893.	XIII	13	135
C. C.'s letter No. ^{2490-Misc.} _{11507-545G} , dated 7th December 1893.	No. 63, dated 16th December 1893.	XVI	5	146
	No. 65, dated 26th December 1893.	XV	1	143
H. D. Res. No. ^{35-Public} ₁₇₀₁₋₁₇₁₈ , dated 8th November 1893.	.....		

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1894.				
C. C.'s letter No. ^{13-Misc.} _{315-17G.} , dated 9th January 1894.	No. 69, dated 15th January 1894.	VI	2	100
C. C.'s Cir. No. 2R., dated 13th January 1894.	No. 73, dated 3rd February 1894.	XVI	13	150
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 2F., dated 16th January 1894.	No. 74, dated 3rd February 1894.	XIV	1	141
C. C.'s Memo. No. ^{254-Misc.} _{662-628G.} , dated 18th January 1894.	No. 75, dated 3rd February 1894.	XIII	3	133
C. C.'s Cir. No. 3G., dated 17th January 1894.	No. 76, dated 3rd February 1894.	II	5	92
	No. 78, dated 8th February 1894.	XVI	4	145
	No. 82, dated 6th March 1894.	XVI	14	151
C. C.'s Cir. No. 21G., dated 30th April 1894.	No. 7, dated 8th May 1894.	XVI	6	146
	No. 9, dated 11th May 1894.	XXII	10	196
C. C.'s Cir. No. 24R., dated 11th May 1894.	No. 10, dated 14th May 1894.	XII	26	129
C. C.'s Memo. No. ^{385-Acct.} _{780-815A.} , dated 23rd May 1894.	No. 13, dated 2nd June 1894.	I	4	69
F. and C. D. Res. No. 2162Ex., dated 30th April 1894.				
H. D. Cir. No. ^{5-Pub.} ₈₅₄ , dated 9th May 1894.	No. 17, dated 11th June 1894.	VI	1	100
C. C.'s memo. No. ^{905-Misc.} _{4338-73G.} , dated 5th June 1894.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 29G., dated 3rd July 1894.	No. 25, dated 30th July 1894.	XIII	17	135
C. C.'s Cir. No. 32G., dated 3rd July 1894.	No. 28, dated 3rd August 1894.	XV	4	143
F. and C. D. Res. No. 3369P., dated 5th July 1894.	No. 30, dated 15th August 1894.	XIV	3	141
	No. 34, dated 27th September 1894.	XII	28	131
C. C.'s Cir. No. 36R., dated 21st September 1894.	No. 35, dated 2nd October 1894.	XII	27	130
R. and A. D. No. 20F., dated 1st October 1894.	No. 39, dated 25th October 1894.	XIII	31	133
C. C.'s Cir. No. 42G., dated 23rd October 1894.	No. 44, dated 13th November 1894.	XIII	10	134
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 12W.P., dated 29th October 1894.	No. 45, dated 16th November 1894.	XXIII	5	20
	No. 52, dated 31st December 1894.	XX	7	183
C. C.'s Not. No. 4614R., dated 27th December, 1894.	.....	XXI	1	183

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1895.				
	No. 53, dated 8th January 1895.	XXII	11	196
	No. 55, dated 9th January 1895.	XVI	11	147
	No. 56, dated 9th January 1895.	XX	8	183
	No. 58, dated 10th January 1895.	III	5	94
	No. 59, dated 14th January 1895.	XVI	8	147
	No. 60, dated 14th January 1895.	XXII	11	196
	No. 66, dated 8th February 1895.	XVI	9	147
	No. 68, dated 25th February 1895.	XX	5	180
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 2, dated 31st January 1895.	No. 69, dated 27th February 1895.	XVII	10	154
	No. 71, dated 27th February 1895.	XVI	12	148
	No. 75, dated 22nd March 1895.	XVII	16	156
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 1F., dated 11th February 1895.	No. 76, dated 23rd March 1895.	VII	1	101
	No. 78, dated 23th March 1895.	I	26	74
" " " 5F., dated 21st March 1895.	No. 5, dated 22nd April 1895.	I	2	66
C. C.'s Cir. No. ^{985-Misc.} ₁₆₆₃₋₆₉ G., dated 27th March 1895.	.....	XVI	1	143
	No. 6, dated 30th April 1895.	XI	14	122
	No. 7, dated 11th May 1895.	XVI	11	147
H. D. Cir. No. 6-Pub. 626, dated 14th April 1895.	No. 20, dated 29th May 1895.	XII	1	123
	No. 10, dated 18th May 1895.	XXI	2	189
C. C.'s Cir. No. 19A., dated 8th May 1895.	No. 11, dated 20th May 1895.	I	6	69
	No. 12, dated 20th May 1895.	XII	34	132
C. C.'s Cir. No. 17A., dated 6th May 1895.	No. 14, dated 23rd May 1895.	I	1-2	65
F. and C. D. Res. No. 1360A., dated 31st March 1895.				
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 9, dated 11th May 1895.	No. 15, dated 23rd May 1895.	XVII	24	164
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 8, dated 11th May 1895.	No. 16, dated 23rd May 1895.	VII	2	101

xxiv GOVERNMENT AND CONSERVATOR'S ORDERS EMBODIED IN PART III.

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1895—contd.				
C. C.'s letter No. 726, dated 11th March 1895.	No. 17, dated 24th May 1895.	XII	35	132
	No. 22, dated 1st June 1895.	XIII	38	141
	No. 29, dated 10th June 1895.	XXI	2	189
C. C.'s Not. No. 2844J., dated 4th June 1895.	No. 30, dated 13th June 1895.	V	2	99
R. and A. D. Cir. No. 8F., dated 21st May 1895.	No. 31, dated 18th June 1895.	IV	2	96
C. C.'s Cir. No. 26R., dated 22nd June 1895.	No. 38, dated 6th July 1895.	XIII	35	139
	No. 44, dated 14th August 1895.	XIII	34	139
C. C.'s letter No. 91Forests—2774R., dated 24th July 1895.	No. 45, dated 15th August 1895.	I	37	90
	No. 48, dated 30th August 1895.	I	31	74
C. C.'s Cir. No. 37R., dated 5th September 1895.	No. 52, dated 12th September 1895.	XIII	8	134
	No. 53, dated 12th September 1895.	XII	16	128
C. C.'s Cir. No. 38G., dated 5th September 1895.	No. 54, dated 16th September 1895.	XII	3	123
C. C.'s letter No. 98Forests—3628R., dated 9th September 1895.	.....	IV	3	96
R. and A. D. Cir. No. $\frac{26}{39-3}$, dated 28th September 1895.	.....	XVII	26	164
	No. 57, dated 3rd October 1895.	I	32	75
H. D. letter No. $\frac{19-Public}{1594}$, dated 7th October 1895.	.....	XIV	4	141
C. C.'s letter No. $\frac{1456-Misc.}{5880-5913}$ R., dated 23rd October 1895.	No. 64, dated 8th November 1895.	XII	19	123
C. C.'s letter No. $\frac{223-Forests}{4365}$ R., dated 2nd November 1895.	No. 65, dated 16th November 1895.	XXIII	5	203
C. C.'s Cir. No. 54J., dated 16th December 1895.	No. 79, dated 26th December 1895.	XIII	36	139
1896.				
	No. 83, dated 2nd January 1896.	XXII	12	196
C. C.'s Not. No. 144R., dated 15th January 1896.	No. 85, dated 25th January 1896.	VIII	1	102
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 1, dated 6th January 1896.	No. 86, dated 27th January 1896.	XVII	10	154
	No. 87, dated 12th February 1896.	XXII	22	198
	No. 89, dated 25th February 1896.	VI	5	100

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1896—contd.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 10R., dated 10th March 1896.	.....	XVII	30	168
	No. 99, dated 24th March 1896.	XXII	21	198
C. C.'s Not. No. 1666G., dated 24th March 1896.	No. 2, dated 6th April 1896.	VII	1	101
	Nos. 7 and 7A, dated 28th April 1896.	XI	15	122
	No. 10, dated 2nd May 1896.	XVI	12	148
	No. 11, dated 5th May 1896.	VI	4	100
C. C.'s letter No. ^{83-Forsts} ₁₆₅₆ R., dated 8th May 1896.	No. 13, dated 11th May 1896.	I	41	90
C. C.'s Cir. No. 20G., dated 15th May 1896.	No. 16, dated 26th May 1896.	I	5	68
R. and A. D. Cir. No. ⁶ ₁₂₇₋₁ F., dated 2nd May 1896.	No. 17, dated 25th May 1896.	I	7	69
I. G. F.'s Cir. No. 6W. P., dated 11th May 1896.	No. 18, dated 25th May 1896.	XXIII	3	201
C. C.'s Not. No. 3112G., dated 18th May 1896.	No. 21, dated 4th June 1896.	VII	1	101
Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 558, dated 30th May 1896.	No. 24, dated 11th June 1896.	XII	38	133
Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 815, dated 29th June 1896.	No. 29, dated 4th July 1896.	XII	38	133
C. C.'s letter No. ^{587-P.C.} ₄₀₃₃ G., dated 23rd June 1896.	No. 30, dated 4th July 1896.	XXII	1	194
Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 943, dated 9th July 1896.	No. 33, dated 15th July 1896.	XII	40	133
F. and C. D. Res. No. 2881P., dated 1st July 1896.	No. 36, dated 21st July 1896.	XIV	2	141
R. and A. D. Cir. No. ² ₉₈₋₁ F., dated 11th March 1896.	No. 38, dated 24th July 1896.	XIV	6	142
R. and A. D. Cir. No. ⁸ ₁₃₅₋₁ F., dated 18th June 1896.				
	No. 40, dated 31st July 1896.	XVI	4	145
	No. 41, dated 5th August 1896.	XII	37	132
C. C.'s Cir. No. ^{506-Accts.} ₁₀₇₉ R., dated 4th August 1896.	No. 42, dated 7th August 1896.	XXII	7	195
F. and C. D. Res. No. 1603Ex., dated 10th April 1896.				
F. and C. D. Cir. No. 37G., dated 27th July 1896.	No. 45, dated 15th August 1896.	XI	3	120
C. C.'s Cir. No. 39R., dated 10th August 1896.	No. 48, dated 20th August 1896.	I	36	90
C. C.'s Cir. No. 38J., dated 8th August 1896.	No. 49, dated 21st August 1896.	XIII	37	141

Government.	Conservator's.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
1896—contd.				
Comp. and Aud. Genl.'s letter No. 1483, dated 24th August 1896.	No. 51, dated 28th August 1896.	I	11	71
C. C.'s letter No. ^{557-Accts.} ₁₁₉₄ A., dated 26th August 1896.	No. 52, dated 28th August 1896.	XXII	7	195
R. and A. D. Cir. No. ¹⁶ ₂₂₋₁₂ F., dated 10th September 1896.	.....	I	17	73
	No. 53, dated 12th September 1896.	XII	39	133
C. C.'s Cir. No. ^{187-Forests} ₃₈₀₈ R., dated 14th September 1896.	No. 54, dated 19th September 1896.	XXI	5	194
C. C.'s letter No. ^{211-Forests} ₃₈₇₃ R., dated 17th September 1896.	No. 57, dated 7th October 1896.	I	11	71
C. C.'s letter No. 52R., dated 30th September 1896.	No. 60, dated 7th October 1896.	XVII	34	171
I. G. F.'s letter No. 795, dated 14th September 1896.	.....	XXIII	6	203
C. C.'s letter No. ^{187-Forests} ₃₉₆₀ R., dated 23rd September 1896.	.....	IV	9	98
C. C.'s Circular No. 55R., dated 7th October 1896.	No. 69, dated 28th October 1896.	I	11	71
	No. 71, dated 4th November 1896.	XVII	16	156
	No. 76, dated 23rd November 1896.			
C. C.'s Cir. No. 57G., dated 30th October 1896.	No. 72, dated 14th November 1896.	XI	8	120
1897.				
C. C.'s Cir. No. 14R., dated 20th March 1897.	No. 1, dated 14th April 1897.	IX	4	113
	No. 9, dated 5th May 1897.	XXII	10	196
C. C.'s Cir. No. 23R., dated 10th June 1897.	No. 35, dated 21st August 1897.	III	12	95
R. and A. D. Cir. No. ¹³ ₆₃₋₂ F., dated 12th July 1897.	No. 31, dated 6th August 1897.	{ I XIX IV	37 1 to 5 7(c)	90 177 97
C. C.'s letter No. ^{40-Rev.} _{204-E} , dated 24th July 1897, to Deputy Commissioner, Sylhet.	.....		
F. & C. D. Res. No. 2225A., dated 18th May 1897.	.....	I	3	67
F. & C. D. Res. No. 3531A., dated 11th August 1897.	.....	I	42	91
C. C.'s Not. No. 2348R., dated 20th December 1897.	.....	XXI	1	183
C. C.'s letter No. 217Forests—2408R., dated 27th December 1897.	.....	III	12	95

INDEX TO PART III.

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
A			
ABOLITION OF APPOINTMENT— on reduction of establishment	XII	1	123
ABSENCE FROM DISTRICT— during holidays	XI	5	120
during casual leave	XI	8	120
ACCOUNT(s)—			
Alterations in prescribed classification in — prohibited	I	24	74
Classification of revenue and expenditure in — under sub-heads	I	33	75
Inspection of Range Cash —	I	30	74
Ministerial officers dealing with money or — ...	XII	7	126
Note at foot of cash —	I	32	75
Treasury — with the Forest Department ...	I	10	69
ACQUIREMENT OF LAND— for public purposes	XVII	7	153
ADDITIONAL BUDGET GRANTS—			
Applications for — how to be made ...	I	2	66
Revised estimate not acceptable as application for —	I	3	67
ADDRESSES—			
Short — for telegrams	XIII	29	137
while on leave	XI	7	120
ADJUSTMENT— of charges against other Departments ...	I	16	72
ADVANCES—			
Building —	II	4	92
Report to accompany applications for building— — to contractors	II	5	92
— to Forest School Students	V	3	100
Vouchers for —	I	27	74
	I	31	74
AGAR MAHALS— Form of lease of —	X	2	113
ALLOWANCES—			
Charge —	I	17	73
Court to inform official superior concerned re- garding — to witnesses	XXII	6	195
ALTERATIONS— in prescribed classification in accounts prohi- bited	I	24	74
Sanction to construction and — of buildings	II	3	92

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
AMMUNITION—			
Indents for arms and —	XX	3	179
ANNUAL REPORTS—	XVI	3	145
APPEALS—			
Intimation of filing — against convictions in Courts in Forest cases	III	12	95
Memorials and — by Government officers and others	XV	5	143
APPLICANTS —			
Physical fitness of — for appointment or pro- motion	XII	33	132
APPLICATION—			
for additional budget grants how to be made	I	2	66
for leave in the case of Subordinate officers ...	XI	14	122
for leave or extensions by Subordinate officers direct to Conservator prohibited ...	XI	13	122
Report to accompany — for building ad- vances	II	5	92
Revised estimate not acceptable as — for ad- ditional budget grant	I	3	67
APPOINTMENT(S)—			
Abolition of — on reduction of establishment	XII	1	123
New — to be on probation	XII	41	133
Physical fitness of applicants for — or pro- motion	XII	33	132
APPRENTICES—			
in offices	XII	15	128
ARMS—			
Grant of licenses to Subordinates to carry —	XIV	4	141
Indents for — and ammunition ...	XX	3	179
ASSESSMENT—			
Expenditure on — of timber valuations ...	XXI	5	194
ATTENDANCE—			
Powers to compel — of offenders and wit- nesses in Forest cases	III	4	93
Medical —	XV	3	143
AUTHORISED—			
Special permission to add — holidays to leave	XI	6	120

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
B			
BADGES—			
Brass — for Guards and Peons; loss of — ...	XX	7	183
BAIL—			
in forest cases	III	1	93
BALLAST—			
Revenue from stone —	I	37	90
BAMBOOS—			
Seeding of trees and flowering of — ...	XVII	33	171
BIDDING FOR WASTE LAND GRANTS—			
by Ministerial Officers forbidden	XII	10	127
BILLS—			
Certificates on subordinates travelling allowance —	XXII	22	198
Diaries and travelling allowance — of officers	XXII	1	194
Record on travelling allowance — regarding use of elephants	XXII	11	196
Subordinates travelling allowance — ...	XXII	18	197
BOOKS—			
Catalogue of —	XIII	14	135
Inspection of home consumption and other permit —	XVII	32	171
Only recorded censure or praise to be entered in service —	XII	39	133
Removal of —	XIII	15	135
Service —	XII	38	133
To be kept in one place in the office ...	XIII	13	135
BORROWING MONEY—			
by non-gazetted officers prohibited ...	XII	11	127
BOTANICAL SPECIMENS—	XVIII	5	175
BOUNDARIES—			
Amended description of — of Forest Reserves	XVII	4	152
Encroachments on Forest Reserve — ...	XVII	2	151
Notifications of charges in Reserved Forest — to be sent to Superintendent of Forest Surveys	XVII	8	153
BUDGET ALLOTMENTS—			
Special sanction to works does not authorize excesses over —	I	9	69

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
BUDGET ESTIMATES—			
Survey estimates to be obtained from proper authorities before incorporation in — ...	I	7	69
BUDGET GRANTS—			
Applications for additional — how to be made ...	I	2	66
Expenditure in excess of — ...	I	1	65
Revised estimates not acceptable as application for additional — ...	I	3	67
BUILDING(S)—			
advances ...	II	4	92
Precautions against fire in thatched — ...	II	2	91
Report to accompany application for — advances ...	II	5	92
Sanction to construction and alteration of — ...	II	3	92
To be kept clean ...	II	1	91
C			
CAMERAS—			
for Forest purposes ...	XVII	24	164
CANDIDATES—			
Fitness of — for the Forest School ...	VII	2	101
— — — — — for appointment or promotion ...	XII	33	132
CANE MAHALS—			
Form of lease of — ...	X	3	115
CARRIAGE—			
of Government stores ...	XX	10	183
of horses by rail or steamer ...	XXII	7	195
of uniforms ...	XX	5	180
CASES—			
and files ...	XIII	30	137
Bail in Forest — ...	III	1	93
Definition of — in the matter of Forest offences ...	III	5	94
Forest officers' powers to compel attendance of offenders and witnesses in Forest — ...	III	4	93
Intimation of appeals filed against convictions in Forest Department — ...	III	12	95
Procedure in Forest Settlement — ...	IX	1	104
Special rewards by Conservator in Forest — ...	III	9	95

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
CASH—			
Chests	I	13	72
Inspection of Range — accounts	I	30	74
Note at foot of — account of revenue and remittances	I	32	75
CASUAL—			
Grant of — leave to subordinate officers by Divisional Officers	XI	15	122
Leave	XI	8	120
CATALOGUE—			
of books	XIII	14	135
CENSURE—			
Only recorded — or praise to be entered in service books	XII	39	133
CERTIFICATE(S)—			
Last pay —	XI	12	121
Leave on medical —	XI	10	121
Medical —	XI	11	121
on subordinates' travelling allowance bills	XXII	22	198
CHARCOAL—			
Measurement of —	XVII	17	161
Trees not to be felled as poles or converted into—	XVII	12	155
CHARGE(S)—			
Adjustment of — against other Departments	I	16	72
allowance	I	17	73
Elephant —	VI	7	101
CHEVRONS—			
Award of — to subordinates	XII	30	131
CHIEF COMMISSIONER—			
Inspections by the —	XIII	17	135
Officers to be at Head Quarters when — visits station	XXII	14	197
CHUBBS' LOCKS—			
	XX	9	183
CIVIL SUITS—			
Government servants summoned to give evidence in —	III	2	93
	III	3	93
CLASSIFICATION—			
Alterations in prescribed — in accounts prohibited	I	24	74
of revenue and expenditure in Forest Accounts under sub-heads	I	33	75
of timber fellings	XVII	14	155
CLASSIFIED LIST—			
of Forest Officers	XIV	6	142
CLERICAL STAFF—			
Pay and grading of —	XII	36	132

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
CLERKS— and other subordinates prohibited from communicating direct with Conservator or members of his Office	XII	37	132
COMMISSION— Gurkati—	I	34	89
COMMISSIONER— Connection of — with Forest Department...	XVII	27	164
COMPOUNDED— Register of Forest Offences — ...	III	10	95
COMPTROLLER, ASSAM— Promissory notes deposited as security to be sent to —	XII	26	129
COMPULSORY— retirement of non-gazetted officers ...	XII	18	128
CONCESSIONS— General — in Assam Valley granted in Mangaldai sub-division " " North Cachar " " North Lakhimpur " " Sibsagar " " Sylhet Shooting — in reserved forests, Naga Hills district Timber — for works of public utility ...	IV IV IV IV IV IV IV IV IV	7(f) 7(a) 7(d) 7(b) 7(e) 7(c)	98 96 97 97 97 97 98 96
CONDUCT— General rules relating to — of Government Officers	XV	4	143
CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS— Applications for leave or extensions direct to — by subordinate officers prohibited ... Orders issued by — or other Superior Officers in original or copies not to be furnished to outsiders Powers as to free grants Special rewards by — in Forest cases ...	XI XIII IV III	13 32 3 9	122 139 96 95
CONSTRUCTION— Sanction to — and alteration of buildings ...	II	3	92
CONTRACTS— Powers to execute —	V	2	99
CONTRACTORS— Advances to — Public Works — to pay royalty through that Department	V V	3 1	100 99
CONTROL OF EXPENDITURE— Necessity for scrutiny and economical— ...	I	4	68

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
CONVICTIONS—			
Intimation of appeals filed against — in			
Forest Department cases ...	III	12	95
Judicial — of Government officials ...	XV	2	143
CORRECTION SLIPS—			
to office manuals	XIII	37	141
CORRESPONDENCE—			
between Deputy Commissioners and Forest			
Officers	XIII	8	134
Copies of — to be forwarded as enclosures to			
letters, not original papers to be returned ...	XIII	9	134
Vernacular words and dates in English —	XIII	35	139
COURT—			
Journeys to give evidence in — ...	XXII	5	195
to inform official superior concerned of al-			
lowances paid to witnesses	XXII	6	195
CRIMINAL OFFENCES—			
committed by Forest subordinates ...	III	11	95
CULTIVATION—			
Royalty on timber on land taken up for —	XVII	34	171
Rules for grants of land for ordinary or spe-			
cial —	XXI	1	183
CURRENCY OF FOREST LEASES—			
	X	1	113
D			
DATES—			
of submission of monthly and periodical re-			
turns	XVI	12	148
DEAD WOOD—			
... ..	XVI	13	155

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
DEDUCTIONS FROM PAY— to form security fund of subordinates ...	XII	27	130
DEHRA DUN— Travelling expenses of — students ...	XXII	16	197
DEMARICATION STATEMENTS— ...	XVI	5	146
DEPARTMENTAL— Abstract of — reports ...	XVI	1	143
examinations ...	VII	1	101
punishments ...	XII	2	123
DEPARTMENT(s)— Adjustment of charges against other — ...	I	16	72
Public Works contractors to pay royalty through that — ...	V	1	99
Services rendered by and to other Government—	I	42	91
Supply of Forest produce to other — ...	XIX	1	177
DEPOSIT— Precautions with Savings Bank security — accounts ...	XII	25	129
DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS— Correspondence between — and Forest Offi- cers ...	XIII	8	134
DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARIES— Amended — of Forest reserves ...	XVI	4	152
DESCRIPTIVE ROLLS OF PENSIONERS ...	XII	20	129
DESTRUCTION OF OLD DOCUMENTS— ...	XIII	31	138
DETECTION— Rewards for — of smuggled rubber ...	III	8	94
DHUBRI— Registration of Forest produce at — ...	XVII	23	164
DIARIES— and travelling allowance bills of gazetted offi- cers ...	XXII	1	194
to contain full information regarding forests, etc., for use in working plans ...	XXIII	4	202
DIRECTOR OF FOREST SCHOOL— Communications to the — ...	XII	32	131
DISBURSERS— Remittances of advances to — by money orders ...	I	11	71
Vouchers for advances to — ...	I	31	74
DISCHARGED SUBORDINATES— Employment of — from one Division in another without reference prohibited ...	XII	34	132
DISFORESTATION— of Forest reserves ...	XVII	3	151

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
DISMISSAL—			
and removal of Government servants ...	XII	3	123
Procedure prior to — of Government servants ...	XII	4	125
DISPOSAL—			
Seizure and — of Forest produce ...	XVI	8	147
DISTRICT OFFICERS—			
Relations of Forest Officers to — ...	XVII	28	164
DIVISIONAL MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS ...	XVI	2	144
DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICERS—			
Applications for leave and reports of return to duty by — in the case of subordinate officers ...	XI	14	122
Check by — of waste-land timber valuations ...	XXI	4	194
Grant of casual leave to subordinate officers by Instructions to Tahsildars and Mauzadars must bear —' signatures ...	XI	15	122
Leave to subordinate officers and extensions in special cases may be granted by — in anticipation of Conservator's sanction ...	XVII	31	170
	XI	13	122
DIVISIONAL INDEX—			
Consecutive numbers of letters and — ...	XIII	7	134
DOCUMENTS—			
Destruction of old — ...	XIII	31	133
DRIFT WOOD ...	XVII	15	156
E			
ECONOMIC PRODUCTS—			
Nomenclature of — ...	XVI	13	150
Supply of information on — ...	XVII	26	164
ELEPHANT(S)—			
Adjustment of — hire ...	XXII	12	196
Alteration in number of — ...	VI	6	101
charges ...	VI	7	101
Government — not allowed in religious processions ...	VI	1	100
Hire of private — ...	XXII	9	196
Indents for — gear ...	XX	8	183
Payments for use of Government — ...	XXII	10	196

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
ELEPHANT(s)—<i>contd.</i>			
Record on travelling allowance bill regarding use of Government — ...	XXII	11	196
Revenue from — tusks ...	I	36	90
Safe keeping of — ...	VI	5	100
Sick — ...	VI	2	100
Supply of — gear ...	VI	3	100
tarpaulins ...	VI	4	100
EMPLOYMENT—			
in two different offices of Ministerial officers ...	XII	5	125
of discharged subordinates from one division ...	XII	24	132
in another without reference prohibited ...	XII	19	128
of pensioned Native soldiers ...	XII	19	128
ENCROACHMENTS ON FOREST REVENUE BOUNDARIES ...	XVII	2	151
ENUMERATION OF TREES ON WASTE LAND GRANTS ...	XXI	2	189
ENUMERATION SURVEYS FOR WORKING PLANS ...	XXIII	6	203
ESTABLISHMENT—			
Abolition of appointment on reduction of — ...	XII	1	123
Quarterly — list ...	XVI	11	147
roll ...	XII	40	133
scale ...	I	26	72
ESTIMATE—			
Danger of over or under — of receipts or expenditure ...	I	6	69
Revised — not acceptable as application for additional budget grants ...	I	2	67
Survey — to be obtained from proper authorities before incorporation in budget ...	I	7	69
EVIDENCE—			
Government servants summoned to give — in civil suits ...	III	3	93
Journeys to give — in court ...	XXII	5	195
EXAMINATIONS—			
Departmental — ...	VII	1	101
EXCESSES OF EXPENDITURE—			
Special sanction to works does not authorize — over budget allotments ...	I	9	69
EXPENDING OFFICER—			
Personal responsibility of — ...	I	5	68
EXPENDITURE—			
Classification of revenue and — under Sub-heads ...	I	33	75
Danger of over or under estimating — or receipts ...	I	6	69
Final — ...	I	28	74
in excess of budget grants ...	I	1	65
Intimation to audit office of sanction to — ...	I	18	73
Necessity of scrutiny and economical control of — ...	I	4	68

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
EXPENDITURE— <i>contd.</i>			
on assessing timber valuations on waste lands	XXI	5	194
on experiments	I	19	72
Rules in applying for sanction to — ...	I	8	69
EXPERIMENTS—			
Expenditure on —	I	19	73
EXTENSIONS —			
Applications for leave or — by subordinate officers direct to Conservator prohibited ...	XI	13	122
Leave to subordinates and — in special cases may be granted by Divisional officers ...	XI	13	122
F			
FACTORS—			
for volume of trees, poles, fuel and tea boxes ...	XVII	35	172
FARMS—			
Trading and taking — by Ministerial officers prohibited	XII	8	126
FELLINGS—			
Classification of —	XVII	14	155
FERRY HIRE—	XXII	8	196
FILES—			
Cases and —	XIII	30	137
FINAL EXPENDITURE—	I	28	74
FINES—			
and permit inspections to be recorded in monthly progress reports	XVI	10	147
Certain — to be credited to Law and Justice	I	35	89
Creation of unauthorized funds by — prohibited	I	21	73
FIRES—			
Forest areas escaping —	XVII	20	161
Precautions against — in thatched buildings	II	2	91
FIRE PROTECTION—			
Record of results of —	XVII	21	161

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
FIREWOOD—			
Trees not to be felled for conversion into — or charcoal	XVII	12	155
FISHERIES—			
Revenue from —	I	39	90
FITNESS—			
Physical — of applicants for appointment or promotion	XII	33	132
FLOWERING—			
Seeding of trees and — of bamboos ...	XVII	33	171
FOREST(S)—			
Amended description of boundaries of Re- served —	XVII	4	152
areas escaping fire	XVII	20	161
Cameras for — purposes	XVII	24	164
Compilation of notes for — purposes ...	XVII	10	154
Concessions, general, in Unclassed State —	IV	7(f)	98
Diaries to contain information relative to — etc., for use in working plans ...	XXIII	4	202
Disforestation of reserved —	XVII	3	151
Encroachments on reserved — boundaries ...	XVII	2	151
Form for proposal to reserve — areas ...	XVII	6	153
„ of lease of Sylhet river —	X	5	117
Limit of temporary privileges in reserved —	IV	1	95
Management of Unclassed State — ...	XVII	30	168
Notification to Superintendent, Forest Surveys, of changes in reserved — boundaries ...	XVII	8	153
Procedure in proposals to reserve — areas adjoining tea estates, etc.	XVII	5	153
Rates of royalty leviable on forest produce from reserved —	XVII	16	156
Record of timber marking in the — ...	XVII	11	155
Responsibility of certain officers in — matters scholarships	XVII	22	163
Shooting in reserved —, Naga Hills District	VIII	1	102
Term Unclassed State — and Waste Lands...	IV	8	98
Troops in reserved —	XVII	29	168
year	XVII	9	154
	XIII	1	133
FOREST ACCOUNTS—			
Classification of revenue and expenditure in — under sub-heads	I	33	75
FOREST CASES—			
Bail in —	III	1	93
Forest officers' powers to compel attendance of offenders and witnesses in —	III	4	93
Special rewards by Conservator in — ...	III	9	95
FOREST DEPARTMENT—			
Connection of the Commissioner with the —	XVII	27	164
Intimation of filing of appeals against convic- tions in courts in — cases	III	12	95
Treasury accounts with the —	I	10	69

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
FORESTERS—			
Jurisdiction of — and Head Guards to be			
fixed	XXII	19	197
travelling allowances	XXII	20	197
FOREST LEASES—			
Currency and forms of —	X	1	113
FOREST OFFENCES—			
Definition of "case" in —	III	5	94
Register of — compounded	III	10	95
FOREST OFFICERS—			
Classified list of —	XIV	6	142
Correspondence between Deputy Commissioners			
and —	XIII	8	134
powers to compel attendance of offenders and			
witnesses in Forest cases	III	4	93
Provident Fund	XIV	2	141
Relations of — with District officers	XVII	23	164
studying on the Continent	XIV	1	141
Tours of —	XXII	15	197
FOREST PRODUCE—			
Conservator's powers as to free grants of —	IV	3	96
Purchasers timber and — return	XVI	9	147
Rates of royalty leviable on — from reserved			
forests	XVII	16	156
Registration of — at Dhubri	XVII	23	164
Seizure and disposal of —	XVI	8	147
Supply of — to other Government Depart-			
ments	XIX	1	177
FOREST RANGERS—			
Status of —	XII	29	131
to be utilized in collecting insect specimens ...	XVIII	3	175
FOREST SCHOOL—			
Communications to the Director of the — ...	XII	32	131
Fitness of candidates for the —	VII	2	101
Rules for admission to and instruction at			
the —, Dehra Dun	VII	3	102
FOREST SCHOOL STUDENTS—			
Advances to —	I	27	74
FOREST SETTLEMENTS—			
Government of India circular on —	IX	2	105
Procedure in — cases	IX	1	104
made previous to introduction of Indian			
Forest Act, VII of 1878	XVII	1	151
Inspector General's Memorandum on — ...	IX	3	106
FOREST SETTLEMENT OFFICERS—			
Instructions for — in Assam	IX	4	113
FOREST SUBORDINATES—			
Criminal offences committed by —	III	11	95

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
FORM(s)—			
for proposal to reserve forest areas ...	XVII	6	123
Instructions for preparation of — Nos. 9, 10			
and 30 ...	I	29	74
of letters ...	XIII	2	133
of security bond and mortgage deed ...	XII	22	129
Receipts to be given on printed — ...	I	15	72
FREE GRANTS—			
Conservator's powers as to — of timber and produce ...	IV	3	96
Quantities of — to be entered on permits ...	IV	6	96
Right-holders and Settlement-holders — ...	IV	5	96
FUEL—			
Factors for volume of — ...	XVII	35	172
FUND(s)—			
Creation of unauthorized — by fines, etc., prohibited ...	I	21	73
Forest Officers' Provident — ...	XIV	2	141
G			
GAZETTED—			
Terms — and non — officers defined ...	XV	1	143
GAZETTED OFFICERS—			
Borrowing money prohibited by non — ...	XII	11	127
Casual leave, — ...	XI	8	120
Compulsory retirement of non — ...	XII	18	123
Diaries and travelling allowance bills of — ...	XXII	1	194
Extension of service of non — ...	XII	17	123
Register of relations of non — ...	XII	16	123
Report of return to duty by — ...	XI	3	120
Report of return to duty in the case of non — ...	XI	14	122

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
GAZETTES—	XIII	12	135
GEAR—	XX	8	183
Indents for elephant —	VI	3	100
Supply of elephant —	IV	7(f)	98
GENERAL CONCESSIONS IN UNCLASSED STATE FORESTS—			
GRADING—	XII	36	132
Pay and — of clerical staff			
GRANTS—			
Bidding for waste land — by Ministerial officers prohibited	XII	10	127
Conditions under which applications for additional budget — to be made	I	2	66
Expenditure in excess of budget —	I	1	65
Procedure in timber valuations on waste land —	XVI	3	190
Quantities of free — to be entered in permits	IV	6	96
Revised estimate not acceptable as application for additional budget —	I	3	67
Right-holders and settlement-holders free —	IV	5	96
Rules for — of land for ordinary or special cultivation	XXI	1	183
Survey of waste land — and enumeration of trees	XXI	2	189
GUARDS—			
Head — travelling allowances	XXII	21	198
Jurisdiction of Foresters and Head — to be fixed	XXII	19	197
GRAZING DUES—	I	38	90
GURKATI COMMISSION—	I	34	89
GOVERNMENT —			
Carriage of — stores	XX	10	183
elephants not allowed in religious processions	VI	1	100
Misuse of — stationery	XIII	18	136
Payments for use of — elephants	XXII	10	196
Prosecutions in which — is concerned	III	7	94
Rights of — in land or produce	IV	9	98
Travelling partly by — or other steamer or launch and partly by road	XXII	3	195
GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS—			
Adjustment of charges against other —	I	16	72
Services rendered by and to other —	I	42	91
Supply of timber and forest produce to —	XIX	1	177
GOVERNMENT OFFICERS—			
General rules relating to conduct of —	XV	4	143
Memorials and appeals by — and others	XV	5	143
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS—			
Judicial conviction of —	XV	2	143
summoned to give evidence in Civil Suits	III	3	93

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
H			
HAMMERS—			
Marking —	XVI	14	151
HEAD GUARDS—			
Jurisdiction of — to be fixed	XXII	19	197
travelling allowances	XXII	21	198
HEAD QUARTERS—			
Officers to be at — when Chief Commissioner visits station	XXII	14	197
HIRE—			
Adjustment of elephant—	XXII	12	196
of private elephants	XXII	9	196
HOME CONSUMPTION—			
Concession in Jaintia Sylhet	IV	7(c)	97
Inspection of — permit books	XVII	32	171
Penalty for raiyats not taking out — permits	IV	4	96
HOLIDAYS—			
Absence from district during —	XI	5	120
Addition of — to leave	XI	4	120
Special permission necessary to add — to leave	XI	6	120
HORSES—			
Carriage of — by rail or steamer	XXII	7	195
I			
IMPORT—			
Power to — labour	XVII	19	161
INDEBTEDNESS OF PUBLIC SERVANTS—	XII	13	127
INDENTS—			
for arms and ammunition	XX	3	179
for elephant gear	XX	8	183
for maps from Forest Survey Office	XVI	12 (foot-note)	150
Medical —	XVI	7	147
Stationery —	XVI	6	146
INFORMATION—			
Divulging of official — prohibited	XII	14	127
INDIAN FOREST ACT—			
Settlements made previous to introduction of the —	XVII	1	151

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
I			
INSECT SPECIMENS—			
Collection and preparation of — enjoined ...	XVIII	2	174
Forest Rangers to be utilized in collecting —	XVIII	3	175
Inspector General will control investigations regarding —	XVIII	4	175
INSECTS—			
Killing, preserving and transporting — ...	XVIII	1	174
INSOLVENCY OF PUBLIC SERVANTS	XII	12	127
INSPECTIONS—			
by Chief Commissioner	XIII	17	135
of home consumption and other permit books	XVII	32	171
of Range cash accounts	I	30	74
Permit — to be recorded in monthly progress reports	XVI	10	147
Range office —	XVI	4	145
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS—			
Memorandum on forest settlements ...	IX	3	106
will control investigations regarding insect specimens	XVIII	4	175
INSTRUCTIONS—			
for Forest Settlement Officers in Assam ...	IX	4	113
for preparation of forms Nos. 9, 10 and 30 ...	I	29	74
to Manzadars and Tahsildars to bear Divisional Forest Officers' signature	XVIII	31	170
Verbal — must be confirmed in writing ...	XIII	38	141
INSURANCE—			
Life — premia	I	22	73
J			
JOURNEYS—			
to give evidence in Court	XXII	5	195
JUDICIAL—			
conviction of Government Officials ...	XV	2	143
JURISDICTION—			
of Foresters and Head Guards to be fixed ...	XXII	19	197

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
L			
LABOUR—			
Power to import —	XVII	19	161
System of payment of —	XVII	18	161
LAC—			
Lease form of — mahals	X	4	117
LAND(s)—			
Acquirement of —	XVII	7	153
Procedure in timber valuations of waste — grants	XXI	3	190
Rights of Government in — and produce ...	IV	9	98
Royalty for timber on — taken up for ordinary or special cultivation	XVII	34	171
Rules for grants of — for ordinary or special cultivation	XXI	1	183
Survey of waste — grants and enumeration of trees	XXI	2	189
Term unclassified State Forest and waste —	XVII	29	168
LAST PAY CERTIFICATES—	XI	12	121
LAUNCH—			
Travelling partly by steamer or — and partly by road	XXII	3	195
LAW AND JUSTICE—			
Certain fines credited to —	I	35	89
LEASES—			
Currency of Forest —	X	1	113
Form of — of Agar Mahals	X	2	113
” ” — of Cane Mahals	X	3	115
” ” — of Lac Mahals	X	4	117
” ” — of Sylhet river forests	X	5	117
LEAVE—			
Addition of holidays to —	XI	4	120
Addresses while on —	XI	7	120
Applications for — by Divisional Officers in the case of subordinates	XI	14	122
Applications for — or extensions by subordinate officers direct to Conservator prohibited	XI	13	122
Authority for —, etc.	XI	2	119
Casual —, Gazetted and executive officers ...	XI	8	120
Grant of casual — to subordinate officers by Divisional Officers	XI	15	122
on Medical certificate	XI	10	121
Privilege — not to be granted during the cold weather	XI	9	121
Special permission necessary to add holidays to —	XI	6	120
Telegrams regarding —, etc.	XIII	28	137
to officials who are volunteers	XI	1	119
and extensions may in special cases be granted by Divisional officers to subordinates ...	XI	13	122

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
LETTERS—			
Arrangement of — in envelopes ...	XIII	3	133
Consecutive numbers of — and Divisional index ...	XIII	7	134
Copies, and not original papers to be returned, to form enclosures to — ...	XIII	9	134
Form of — ...	XIII	2	133
Replies to — to be prompt ...	XIII	4	134
LIBRARY—			
Charge of — ...	XIII	16	135
LICENSE—			
Grant of — to subordinates to carry arms ...	XIV	4	141
LIFE INSURANCE PREMIA ...	I	22	73
LIMIT—			
of temporary privileges in reserved forests ...	IV	1	95
LIST—			
Classified — of Forest officers ...	XIV	6	142
LITIGATION—			
Revenue from timber under — ...	I	25	74
LOCKS—			
Chubbs' — ...	XX	9	183
M			
MAHALS—			
Form of lease of Agar — ...	X	2	113
" " " " Cane — ...	X	3	115
" " " " Lac — ...	X	4	117
MAIL STEAMERS—			
Officers to travel as ordinary passengers by —	XXII	2	195
MANAGEMENT OF UNCLASSED STATE FORESTS ...	XVII	30	168
MANGALDAI SUB-DIVISION—			
Concessions granted in — ...	IV	7(a)	96
MANUALS—			
Correction slips to office — ...	XIII	37	141
Upkeep of — ...	XIII	36	139

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
MAPS—			
Indents for Forest Survey ...	XVI	12 (foot-note)	150
Stock ——— and conduct of enumeration surveys for working plans ...	XXIII	6	203
MARKING HAMMERS ...	XVI	14	151
MARKING—			
Record of timber ——— in the forest ...	XVII	11	155
MAUZADARS—			
Instructions to ——— must bear Divisional officers' signature ...	XVII	31	170
MEALS—			
Recovery of cost of ——— on steamers ...	XXII	4	195
MEDALS—			
Efficient volunteers eligible for ——— for active service ...	XII	31	131
MEDICAL—			
attendance ...	XV	3	143
Indents for ——— stores and medicines, etc. ...	XVI	7	147
MEDICAL CERTIFICATES—			
by whom signed and countersigned ...	XI	11	121
Leave on ——— ...	XI	10	121
MEMORIALS—			
and appeals by Government officers and others	XV	5	143
MINISTERIAL OFFICERS—			
Acquisition of property by ——— ...	XII	9	126
belong to the office to which they are posted	XII	6	125
Bidding by ——— for waste land grants prohibited	XII	10	127
Borrowing money by ——— prohibited ...	XII	11	127
Compulsory retirement of ——— ...	XII	18	128
dealing with money and accounts ...	XII	7	126
Employment in two offices of ——— prohibited	XII	5	125
Extension of service of ——— ...	XII	17	128
Indebtedness of ——— ...	XII	13	127
Insolvency of ——— ...	XII	12	127
Register of relations of ——— ...	XII	16	128
Trading and taking farms by ——— prohibited	XII	8	126
MONEY—			
Borrowing—prohibited by non-gazetted officers	XII	11	127
Ministerial officers-dealing with ——— and ac- counts ...	XII	7	126
MONEY ORDERS—			
Remittances by ——— to Treasuries and dis- bursers ...	I	11	71
MONTHLY—			
Divisional ——— progress reports ...	XVI	2	144
Fines and permit inspections to be recorded in ——— progress reports ...	XVI	10	147
Submission of ——— and periodical returns, with dates ...	XVI	12	148

	Section.	Rule.	Page.
MORTGAGE DEED— Forms of security bond and — ...	XII	22	129
N			
NAGA HILLS DISTRICT— Concessions as to shooting in reserved forests in — ...	IV	8	98
NATIVE SOLDIERS— Employment of pensioned — ...	XII	19	128
NEW APPOINTMENTS— to be on probation ...	XII	41	133
NOMENCLATURE— of economic products ... of plants ...	XVI XVII	13 25	150 164
NON-GAZETTED OFFICERS— Borrowing money by — prohibited ... Compulsory retirement of — ... Extension of service of — ... Register of relations of — ... Terms gazetted and — defined ...	XII XII XII XII XV	11 18 17 16 1	127 128 128 128 143
NORTH CACHAR— Concessions granted in — ...	IV	7(d)	97
NORTH LAKHIMPUR— Concessions granted in — ...	IV	7(b)	97
NOTES— Compilation of — for Forest purposes ...	XVII	10	154
NOTICES— Publication of —, etc. ... Vernacular translations of — to be published ...	XIII XIII	10 11	134 135
NOTIFICATIONS— of changes in reserved forest boundaries to be sent to Superintendent of Forest Surveys ...	XVII	8	153

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
O			
OFFENCES—			
Criminal — committed by Forest subordinates	III	11	95
Definition of "case" in the matter of			
Forest —	III	5	94
Register of Forest — compounded ...	III	10	95
OFFENDERS—			
Forest Officers' powers to compel attendance			
of — and witnesses in Forest cases ...	III	4	93
OFFICES—			
Apprentices in —	XII	15	128
Ministerial Officers belong to the — to which			
they are posted	XII	6	125
OFFICE ROUTINE—			
General —	XIII	6	134
OFFICERS—			
Responsibility of certain — in Forest matters	XVII	22	163
Responsibility of — for public money ...	I	20	73
Security to be given by — on probation ...	XII	21	129
Supplies and provisions to — on tour ...	XXII	13	196
to be at Head quarters when Chief Commis-			
sioner visits station	XXII	14	197
to travel as ordinary passengers by mail			
steamers	XXII	2	195
OFFICIAL INFORMATION—			
Divulging of — prohibited	XII	14	127
OFFICIALS—			
Judicial conviction of Government — ...	XV	2	143
ORDERS—			
issued by Conservator or other Superior Officers			
in original or copies not to be furnished to			
outsiders	XIII	32	139
Remittances to treasuries and to disbursers by			
money —	I	11	71
ORDINARY CULTIVATION—			
Royalty for timber on land taken up for —			
or special	XVII	34	171
Rules for grants of land for special and —...	XXI	1	183
OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS—			
Adjustment of charges against — ...	I	16	72
Services rendered by or to — ...	I	42	91
Supply of timber and produce to — ...	XIX	1	177

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
P			
PAY—			
and grading of clerical staff ...	XII	36	132
Deductions from — to form security fund ...	XII	27	130
PAYMENT(s)—			
for use of Government elephants ...	XXII	10	196
System of — of labour ...	XVII	18	161
PENALTY—			
for raiyyats not taking out home consumption permits ...	IV	4	96
PENSION—			
Speedy settlement of — claims... ..	XIV	3	141
PENSIONED—			
Employment of — native soldiers ...	XII	19	128
PENSIONERS—			
Descriptive rolls of — ...	XII	20	129
PERIODICAL—			
Submission of monthly and — returns with dates	XVI	12	148
PERMITS—			
Penalty for raiyyats not taking out home consumption —	IV	4	96
Quantities of free grants to be entered on —	IV	6	96
PERMIT BOOKS—			
Inspection of home consumption and other —	XVII	32	171
PERMIT INSPECTIONS—			
Fines and — to be recorded in monthly progress reports	XVI	10	147
PERSONAL—			
responsibility of expending officer ...	I	5	68
PLANTS—			
Nomenclature of —	XVII	25	164
PLEADERS—			
Sanction to employment of — ...	III	6	94
POLES—			
Factors for volume of —	XVII	35	172
Trees not to be filled as — or converted into firewood or charcoal	XVII	12	155
POSTAGE—			
Economy in —	XIII	34	139
stamps	XIII	33	139
POSTINGS—			
Transfers and — of subordinates ...	XII	35	132

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
POWERS—			
Conservators' — as to free grants ...	IV	3	96
Forest Officers' — to compel attendance of offenders and witnesses in Forest cases ...	III	4	93
to deviate from prescriptions of working plans ...	XXIII	5	203
to execute contracts ...	V	2	99
to import labour ...	XVII	19	161
PRAISE—			
Only recorded censure or — to be entered in service books ...	XII	39	133
PRECAUTIONS—			
against fire in thatched buildings ...	II	2	91
regarding securities and deductions from pay to form security fund ...	XII	27	130
PREMIA—			
Life Insurance— ...	I	22	73
PRESCRIBED—			
Alt. rations in — classification in accounts prohibited ...	I	24	74
PRESCRIPTIONS—			
Powers to deviate from — of working plans ...	XXIII	5	203
PRESERVING—			
Killing, — and transporting insects ...	XVIII	1	174
PRINTED FORMS—			
Receipts to be given on — ...	I	15	72
PRIVILEGE LEAVE—			
not to be granted in cold weather ...	XI	9	121
PRIVILEGES—			
Limit of temporary — in reserved forests ...	IV	1	95
PROBATION—			
Security to be given by officers on — ...	XII	21	129
New appointments to be on — ...	XII	41	133
PROCEDURE—			
in Forest Settlement cases ...	IX	1	104
in proposals to reserve forest areas adjoining tea estates, etc. ...	XVII	5	153
prior to dismissal of public servants ...	XII	4	125
Reasons for and — in preparing working plans ...	XXIII	2	198
to be adopted in timber valuations on waste land grants ...	XXI	3	190
PROCESSIONS—			
Government elephants not to be allowed in religious — ...	VI	1	100
PRODUCE—			
Conservators' powers as to free grants of forest — ...	IV	3	96

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
PRODUCE—<i>contd.</i>			
Purchasers' timber and forest — return ...	XVI	9	147
Rates of royalty on forest — from reserved forests ...	XVII	16	156
Registration of forest — at Dhubri ...	XVII	23	164
Rights of Government in land or — ...	IV	9	98
Seizure and disposal of forest — ...	XVI	8	147
PRODUCTS—			
Nomenclature of economic — ...	XVI	13	150
Supply of information on economic — ...	XVII	26	164
PROGRESS REPORTS—			
Divisional monthly — ...	XVI	2	144
Fines and permit inspections to be recorded in monthly — ...	XVI	10	147
PROHIBITED—			
Alterations in prescribed classification in accounts — ...	I	24	74
Applications by subordinates direct to Conservator for leave or extensions — ...	XI	13	123
Bidding for waste land grants by Ministerial officers — ...	XII	10	127
Borrowing money by non-gazetted officers — ...	XII	11	127
Creation of unauthorized funds by fines, etc. — ...	I	21	73
Divisional office clerks and other subordinates — from communicating direct with Conservator or with members of his office ...	XII	37	132
Divulging of official information — ...	XII	14	127
Employment of discharged subordinates of one Division in another — without previous reference ...	XII	34	132
Employment of Ministerial officers in two offices — ...	XII	5	125
Trading and taking farms by Ministerial officers — ...	XII	8	126
PROMISSORY NOTES—			
Deposited as security to be sent to Comptroller, Assam ...	XII	26	129
PROMOTION—			
Physical fitness of applicants for — ...	XII	33	132
PROPERTY—			
Acquisition of — by Ministerial officers ...	XII	9	126
PROPOSALS—			
Form for — to reserve forest areas ...	XVII	6	153
Procedure in — to reserve forest areas adjoining tea estates, etc. ...	XVII	5	153
PROSECUTIONS—			
in which Government is concerned ...	III	7	94
PROTECTION—			
Record of fire — results ...	XVII	21	161
PROVIDENT—			
Forest Officers' — Fund ...	XIV	2	141

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
PROVISIONS—			
Supplies and — to officers on tour ...	XXII	13	196
PUBLICATION OF NOTICES, ETC. ...	XIII	10	134
PUBLIC MONEY—			
Responsibility of officers for — ...	I	20	73
PUBLIC SERVANTS—			
Dismissal and removal of — ...	XII	3	123
Indebtedness of — ...	XII	13	127
Insolvency of — ...	XII	12	127
Procedure prior to dismissal of — ...	XII	4	125
PUBLIC WORKS—			
Contractors to pay royalty through —. De- partment ...	V	1	99
PUNISHMENTS—			
Departmental — ...	XII	2	123
PURCHASE—			
Sanction for — of stores, tools and plant ...	XX	2	179
PURCHASERS—			
' timber and forest produce return ...	XVI	9	147
Q			
QUANTITIES—			
of free grants to be entered on permits ...	IV	6	96
QUARTERLY—			
establishment list ...	XVI	11	147

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
R			
RAIL— Carriage of horses by — or steamer ...	XXII	7	195
RAIYATS— Penalty for — not taking out home consumption permits	I V	4	96
RANGE CASH ACCOUNTS — Inspection of —	I	30	74
RANGE OFFICE — inspection reports	XVI	4	145
RANGERS— to be utilized in collecting insect specimens ...	XVIII	3	175
RATES— of royalty on timber and forest produce from reserved forests	XVII	16	156
RECEIPTS— Danger of over or under estimating — or expenditure to be given on printed forms	I I	6 15	69 72
RECORD— of fire protection results of timber marking in the forest	XVII XVII	21 11	161 155
REDUCTION— Abolition of appointment on — of establishment	XII	1	123
REFUNDS—	I	14	72
REGISTER (s)— of Forest offences compounded of relations of non-gazetted officers Uniform —	III XII XX	10 16 4	95 128 179
REGISTRATION— of forest produce at Dhubri of security bonds	XVII XII	23 23	164 129
RELATIONS— of Forest officers to District officers Register of — of non-gazetted officers ...	XVII XII	28 16	164 128
REMITTANCES— and non-retention of revenue Note at foot of cash account regarding revenue and — to treasuries and to disbursers by money order	I I I	12 32 11	72 75 71
REMOVAL OF PUBLIC SERVANTS—	XII	3	123
REPLIES TO LETTERS TO BE PROMPT—	XIII	4	134

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
REPORTS—			
Abstract of Departmental — ...	XVI	1	143
Annual — ...	XVI	3	145
Divisional monthly progress — ...	XVI	2	144
of return to duty by Divisional officers of subordinate officers ...	XI	14	122
of return to duty by gazetted officers ...	XI	3	120
Permit inspections and fines to be recorded in monthly progress — ...	XVI	10	147
Range office inspection — ...	XVI	4	145
to accompany applications for building advances ...	II	5	92
to be complete ...	XIII	5	134
RESERVED FORESTS—			
Amended descriptions of boundaries of — ...	XVII	4	152
Concessions as to shooting in — in Naga Hills ...	IV	8	98
Disforestation of — ...	XVII	3	151
Encroachments on — boundaries ...	XVII	2	151
Form of proposal for — areas ...	XVII	6	153
Limit of temporary privileges in — ...	IV	1	95
Notifications of changes of — boundaries to be sent to Superintendent of Forest Surveys	XVII	8	153
Procedure in proposals for — areas adjoining tea estates, etc. ...	XVII	5	153
Rates of royalty on timber and produce from — ...	XVII	16	156
Revenue from fisheries in — ...	I	39	90
Troops in — ...	XVII	9	154
RESPONSIBILITY—			
of certain officers in Forest matters ...	XVII	22	163
of officers for public money ...	I	20	73
Personal — of expending officer ...	I	5	68
RETIREMENT—			
Compulsory — of non-gazetted officers ...	XII	18	123
RETURNS—			
Purchasers' timber and forest produce — ...	XVI	9	147
Submission of monthly and periodical — with dates ...	XVI	12	148
RETURN TO DUTY—			
Reports of — of subordinate officers by Divisional officers ...	XI	14	122
Reports of — by gazetted officers ...	XI	3	120
REWARDS—			
and scholarships ...	I	23	74
for detection of smuggled rubber ...	III	8	94
Special — by Conservator in Forest cases ...	III	9	95
REVENUE—			
Classification of — under sub-heads in Forest accounts ...	I	33	75
from elephant tusks ...	I	36	90
from fisheries in reserved forests ...	I	39	90

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
REVENUE—contd.—			
from grazing dues	I	38	90
from silkworms	I	41	90
from stone ballast	I	37	90
from tea boxes	I	40	90
from timber under litigation	I	25	74
Note at foot of cash account regarding —			
and remittances	I	32	75
Remittances and non-retention of —	I	12	72
REVISED ESTIMATE—			
not acceptable as application for additional budget grants	I	3	67
RIGHT-HOLDERS—			
and Settlement-holders' free grants	IV	5	96
RIGHTS OF GOVERNMENT—			
in land or produce	IV	9	98
ROLLS—			
Descriptive — of pensioners	XII	20	129
Establishment —	XII	40	133
ROUTINE—			
General office —	XIII	6	134
ROYALTY—			
Contractors to pay — through Public Works Department	V	1	99
for timber on land taken up for ordinary or special cultivation	XVII	34	171
Rates of — on timber and forest produce from reserved forests	XVII	16	156
RUBBER—			
Rewards for detection of smuggled —	III	8	94
RULES—			
for admission to and instruction at the Forest School, Dehra Dun	VII	3	102
for grants of land for special and ordinary cultivation	XXI	1	183
General — relating to conduct of Govern- ment officers	XV	4	143
in applying for sanction to expenditure	I	8	69

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
S			
SANCTION (a)--			
for purchase of stores, tools and plant ...	XX	2	179
Intimation to audit office of — to expenditure ...	I	18	73
to construction and alteration of buildings ...	II	3	92
to employment of pleaders ...	III	6	94
Rules in applying for — to expenditure ...	I	8	69
SAVINGS BANK—			
Precautions with — security deposit accounts	XII	25	129
SCALE—			
Establishment — ...	1	26	74
SCHOLARSHIPS—			
Forest — ...	VIII	1	102
Rewards and — ...	I	23	74
SCRUTINY—			
Necessity for — of expenditure... ..	I	4	68
SECURITY—			
Amounts to be deposited as cash — by subordinates... ..	XII	28	131
Kind of — to be taken ...	XII	24	129
— from officers on probation ...	XII	21	129
Precautions regarding deductions from pay to form — fund ...	XII	27	130
Promissory notes deposited as — to be sent to Comptroller, Assam ..	XII	26	129
SECURITY BONDS—			
Form of — and mortgage deed... ..	XII	22	129
Registration of — ...	XII	23	129
SECURITY DEPOSITS—			
Precautions with Savings Bank — accounts...	XII	25	129
SECURITY FUND—			
Precautions regarding deductions from pay to form — ...	XII	27	130
SEEDING—			
of trees and flowering of bamboos ...	XVII	33	171
SEIZURE—			
and disposal of timber and forest produce ...	XVI	8	147

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
SERVICE—			
Extension of — of non-gazetted officers ...	XII	17	128
SERVICE BOOKS— ...	XII	38	133
Only recorded censure or praise to be entered in — ...	XII	39	133
SETTLEMENT (s)—			
Forest — made previous to introduction of the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878 ...	XVII	1	151
Government of India Circular on — ...	IX	2	105
Inspector General's Memorandum on — ...	IX	3	106
Instructions to Forest — officers in Assam ...	IX	4	113
Procedure in Forest — cases ...	IX	1	104
Speedy — of pension claims ...	XIV	3	141
SETTLEMENT-HOLDERS—			
Right-holders' and —' free grants ...	IV	5	96
SHOOTING—			
Concessions as to — in reserved forests, Naga Hills district ...	IV	8	98
SIBSAGAR—			
Concessions granted in — district ...	IV	7(e)	97
SICK ELEPHANTS ...	VI	2	100
SILKWORMS ...	I	41	90
SMUGGLED RUBBER—			
Rewards for detection of — ...	III	8	94
SOLDIERS—			
Employment of pensioned native — ...	XII	19	128
SPECIAL CULTIVATION—			
Royalty of timber on land taken up for ordinary or — ...	XVII	34	171
Rules for grants of land for ordinary or — ...	XXI	1	183
SPECIAL REWARDS —			
by Conservator in Forest cases ..	III	9	95
SPECIAL SANCTION—			
to works does not authorize excesses over budget allotments ...	I	9	69
SPECIMENS—			
Botanical— ...	XVIII	5	175
Collection and preparation of insect — en-joined ...	XVIII	2	174
Forest Rangers to be utilized in collecting insect— ...	XVIII	3	175
Inspector General will control investigations regarding insect — ..	XVIII	4	175
SPORTSMEN—			
Warning to — ...	XIV	5	141

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
STAMPS—			
Postage —	XIII	33	139
STATEMENTS—			
Demarcation —	XVI	5	146
STATIONERY—			
how to be kept, etc.,	XIII	20	136
Indents for —	XVI	6	146
Misuse of Government —	XIII	18	136
Stock-book of —	XIII	19	136
Use and care of —	XIII	21	136
STEAMER (s)—			
Carriage of horses by rail or —	XXII	7	195
Officers to travel as ordinary passengers by mail —	XXII	2	195
Recovery of cost of meals on —	XXII	4	195
Travelling partly by Government or other — and partly by road	XXII	3	195
STOCK MAPS—			
and the conduct of enumeration surveys for working plans	XXIII	6	203
STONE BALLAST—			
Revenue from —	I	37	90
STORES—			
Carriage of Government —	XX	1	178
	XX	10	183
STORES, TOOLS AND PLANT—			
Sanctions for purchase of —	XX	2	179
STUDENTS —			
Advances to Forest School —	I	27	74
Travelling expenses of Forest School —	XXII	16	197
STUDYING ON THE CONTINENT—			
Forest Officers —	XIV	1	141
SUB-HEADS —			
Classification of revenue and expenditure in Forest accounts under —	1	33	75
SUBMISSION—			
of monthly and periodical returns with dates	XVI	12	148
SUBORDINATE OFFICERS—			
Applications for leave and report of return to duty of — by Divisional Officers	XI	14	122
Applications for leave or extension by — direct to Conservator prohibited	XI	13	122
Grant of casual leave to — by Divisional Officers	XI	15	122
Leave to — and extensions in special cases may be granted by Divisional Officers	XI	13	122

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
SUBORDINATES—			
Amount to be deposited as cash security by —	XII	28	131
Award of chevrons to — below the rank of Ranger	XII	30	131
Deductions from pay to form security of —	XII	27	130
Certificates on — travelling allowance bills	XXII	22	198
Criminal offences committed by Forest — ...	III	11	95
Employment of discharged — in another Division without reference prohibited ...	XII	34	132
Grant of licenses to — to carry arms ...	XIV	4	141
not to travel ordinarily over 19 miles a day ...	XXII	17	197
prohibited from corresponding direct with Conservator or members of his office ...	XII	37	132
Transfers and postings of — ...	XII	35	132
'travelling allowance bills ...	XXII	18	197
SUITS—			
Civil —	III	2	93
Government servants summoned to give evidence in civil—	III	3	93
SUPERINTENDENT OF FOREST SURVEYS—			
Notifications of changes in Forest reserve boundaries to be sent to —	XVII	8	153
SUPERIOR OFFICERS—			
Orders issued by — in original or copies not to be furnished to outsiders	XIII	32	139
SUPPLIES—			
and provisions to officers on tour ...	XXII	13	196
SUPPLY—			
of timber and forest produce to other Government Departments	XIX	1	177
SURVEY—			
of waste land grants and enumeration of trees	XXI	2	189
Stock maps and conduct of enumeration — for working plans	XXIII	6	203
SURVEY ESTIMATES—			
to be obtained from proper authorities before incorporation in budget estimates ...	I	7	69
SYLHET DISTRICT—			
Concessions granted in —	IV	7(c)	97
SYLHET RIVER FORESTS—			
Form of lease of —	X	5	117
SYLVICULTURAL TREATMENT—			
Method of — to be discussed in working plans	XXIII	3	201

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
T			
TAHSILDARS—			
Instructions to — should bear Divisional Forest Officer's signature	XVII	31	170
TARPAULINS—			
Elephant —	VI	4	100
TEA BOXES—			
Factors for volume of timber in — ...	XVII	35	172
Revenue from —	I	40	90
TEA ESTATES—			
Procedure in proposals to reserve forest areas adjoining —	XVII	5	153
TELEGRAMS—			
Brevity desirable in —	XIII	23	136
Check on use of —	XIII	26	137
Classes of State —	XIII	22	136
in cases of great urgency	XIII	27	137
Prepaid —	XIII	24	136
regarding leave or other personal matters ...	XIII	28	137
Short addresses for —	XIII	29	137
to places off the line	XIII	25	137
TEMPORARY PRIVILEGES—			
Limit of — in reserved forests ...	IV	1	95
TIMBER—			
concessions	IV	2	96
Purchasers' — and forest produce return ...	XVI	9	147

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
TIMBER—<i>contd.</i>			
Rates of royalty leviable on — in reserved forests ...	XVII	16	156
Revenue from — under litigation ...	I	25	74
Royalty for — on land taken up for special or ordinary cultivation ...	XVII	34	171
Seizure and disposal of — and forest produce	XVI	8	147
Supply of — to other Government Departments ...	XIX	1	177
TIMBER MARKING—			
hammers ...	XVI	14	151
Record of — in the forests ...	XVII	11	155
TIMBER VALUATIONS—			
Check by Divisional Forest Officers of — ...	XXI	4	194
Expenditure on assessing — ...	XXI	5	194
Procedure in making — on waste land grants	XXI	3	190
TRADING—			
and taking farms by Ministerial officers prohibited... ..	XII	8	126
TRANSFERS AND POSTINGS—			
of Subordinates	XII	35	132
TRANSLATIONS—			
Vernacular — of notices to be published ...	XIII	11	135
TRANSPORTING—			
Killing, preserving and — insects ...	XVIII	1	174
TRAVELLING—			
partly by Government or other steamer or launch and partly by road— ...	XXII	3	195
TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES—			
of Foresters	XXII	20	197
of Head Guards	XXII	21	198
TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE BILLS—			
Certificates on subordinates' — ...	XXII	22	198
Diaries and — of gazetted officers ...	XXII	1	194
Record on — regarding use of Government elephants	XXII	11	196
Subordinates' —	XXII	18	197
TRAVELLING EXPENSES—			
of Dehra Dun students	XXII	16	197
TREASURY ACCOUNTS—			
with the Forest Department	I	10	69
TREASURIES—			
Remittances to — and to disbursers by money orders	I	11	71
TREES—			
Enumeration of — on waste land grants ...	XXI	2	189
Factors for volume of —, poles, fuel and tea boxes	XVII	35	172
not to be felled as poles or converted into fuel	XVII	12	155
Seeding of — and flowering of bamboos ...	XVII	33	171

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
TROOPS— in reserved forests	XVII	9	154
TOOLS AND PLANT— Sanctions to purchase of stores, — ...	XX	2	179
TOURS— of Forest Officers	XXII	15	197
Supplies and provisions to officers on — ...	XXII	13	896
TUSKS— Revenue from elephant —	I	36	90
U			
UNAUTHORIZED FUNDS— Creation of — by fines, etc., prohibited ...	I	21	73
UNCLASSED STATE FORESTS— General concessions in —	IV	7(f)	98
Management of —	XVII	30	168
Term — and waste lands	XVII	29	168
UNIFORM(s)— Carriage of —	XX	5	180
Prescribed —	XX	6	180
registers	XX	4	179
V			
VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS— must be confirmed in writing	XIII	38	141
VERNACULAR TRANSLATIONS— of notices to be published	XIII	11	135
of words and dates in English correspondence	XIII	35	139

Subject.	Section.	Rule.	Page.
VOLUME OF TREES— Factors for — and of fuel and tea boxes, etc.,...	XVII	35	172
VOLUNTEERS— Efficient — eligible for medals for active service	XII	31	131
Leave to officials who are —	XI	1	119
VOUCHERS— for advances to disbursers	I	31	74
W			
WASTE LAND(s)— Bidding for — grants by Ministerial officers prohibited	XII	10	127
Expenditure on assessing timber valuations on —	XXI	5	194
Procedure to be adopted in timber valuations on — grants	XXI	3	190
Survey of — grants and enumeration of trees	XXI	2	189
Term unclassified state forests and —	XVII	29	168
WITNESSES— Court to inform official superior concerned regarding allowances to —	XXII	6	195
WORKING PLANS— Diaries to contain information relative to forests, etc., for use in —	XXIII	4	202
Method of sylvicultural treatment to be discussed in —	XXIII	3	201
Powers to deviate from prescriptions of —	XXIII	5	203
Preparation of —	XXIII	1	198
Reasons for and procedure in preparing —	XXIII	2	198
Stock maps and conduct of enumeration surveys for —	XXIII	6	203
WORKS— Special sanction to — does not authorize excesses over budget allotments	I	9	69
WORKS OF PUBLIC UTILITY— Timber concessions for —	IV	2	96

APPENDIX.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FOREST DEPARTMENT IN ASSAM, COMPILED BY T. J. CAMPBELL, DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (TO 1895-96).

CONSTITUTION OF THE CIRCLE.

1. Until January 1874, when Assam was constituted a Chief Commissionership, forest matters were administered from Bengal. Goálpára and the Gáro Hills formed a portion of the Bhutan Forest division, the latter becoming a sub-division of the Cooch Behar division in 1870-71, and continuing as such till the alienation of the district from Bengal. The Bengal "Dacca division" included, with others, the Cachar and Sylhet districts, until their transfer to the province of Assam. The Assam Commissionership comprised two Forest sub-divisions (1) the "Upper Assam," consisting of the Lakhimpur, Sibságar, and Nága Hills districts, and (2) the "Lower Assam," composed of the Kámrúp, Nowgong, Darrang, and Khási Hills districts, the two combined forming the Assam Forest division. This arrangement continued till 1873-74, when the division was split up into three sub-divisions: (1) Gauháti, identical with the Kámrúp district, (2) Tezpur, with Darrang, and (3) Golághát, including the Nowgong, Sibságar, and Nága Hills districts. The formation of the Chief Commissionership and the severance of forest control from Bengal resulted in the creation of five Forest divisions:

- (1) Goálpára, including the Goálpára and Gáro Hills districts.
- (2) Gauháti, including Kámrúp and the western half of the Nowgong district.
- (3) Tezpur, the Darrang district.
- (4) Golághát, the Sibságar, Nága Hills, and the eastern half of the Nowgong district.
- (5) Cachar, the Cachar and Sylhet districts.

2. In 1877-78 the Nowgong district was added to the Tezpur division. In August 1880, Sibságar was created a division (supplanting the old Golághát division with the portion of the Nowgong district excoized), and Lakhimpur became a division at the same time. The Gáro Hills was constituted a distinct division in November 1881.

3. Up to the close of 1881 departmental control was limited to areas declared reserved forests and plantations, the "open forests," with the assistance of a forester and two or four forest guards, being administered by the Deputy Commissioners of districts. The necessity for a closer association of the Civil and Forest-Officers, and for making charges conterminous with district boundaries, had been recognised for some time, so by Resolution No. 1812, dated 29th December 1881, "open forests," thenceforward to be termed "district forests," were to be managed by Forest-Officers in subordination to the Deputy Commissioner, tahsildárs and mauzadárs assisting them in the administration of the same, and this is the system, with trifling modifications, now in force.

4. Sylhet was formed into a separate division in July 1885 and Nowgong in January 1886.

5. A Deputy Conservator was in charge of the circle till 1880-81, when the appointment became a Conservatorship. In 1872-73 the sanctioned permanent establishment consisted of :

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1 Deputy Conservator. | |
| 2 Assistant Conservators. | |
| 1 Forest Ranger, second class, on Rs. 25 per mensem. | |
| 2 Foresters, second class | " 14 " " each. |
| 13 Forest watchers | " 7 " " " |

6. There was no office establishment allowed, and not even a personal peon. An officer was added to the controlling staff in 1873-74, two more in 1875-76, one more in 1879-80, two more in 1881-82, one more in 1885-86, two more in 1886-87, two more in 1891-92, and one more in 1893-94.

The sanctioned controlling staff from 1891-92 is—

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Conservator. | |
| 1 Deputy Conservator, first grade. | |
| 1 " " second " | |
| 1 " " third " | |
| 3 " Conservators, fourth " | |
| 2 Assistant Conservators, first " | |
| 1 " Conservator second " | |
| 1 Extra Assistant Conservator, first grade. | |
| 1 " " " third " | |
| 1 " " " fourth " | |

Of course, all officers referred to were not always in the circle, some being on leave or on deputation. The following table shows the progress made in the development of the subordinate establishment :

Period.	Forest establishment.			Office establishment.	
	Rangers.	Foresters.	Guards.	Clerks.	Peons.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1874-75	2	12	57	6	6
1875-76 to 1877-78	5	11	67	9	13
1878-79 „ 1881-82	9	11	94	10	15
1882-83 „ 1883-84	11	21	157	11	17
1884-85 „ 1885-86	11	21	157	18	17
1886-87 „ 1891-92	10	22	157	18	17
1892-93	9	23	157	25	25
1893-94	10	22	157	25	25

7. Complaints of inadequacy of establishment have been continuous for years, and a strong leavening of temporary establishments is maintained to secure efficient administration.

AREA AND DISTRIBUTION.

8. The growth in the area reserved is indicated in the following table:

—	Area in		
	Square miles.	Acres.	
1	2	3	4
On 31st March 1 73	214	137,120	The forest year terminated on the 31st March of each year, like the financial year, till 1892; since then it has terminated on the 30th June.
„ „ „ 1878	1,983	1,269,008	
„ „ „ 1883	2,177	1,392,994	
„ „ „ 1888	3,310	2,118,207	
„ 30th June 1893	3,625	2,320,303	
„ 1st October 1 896	3,685	2,358,455	

9. The area of the province being 45,377·66 square miles, the percentage reserved is 12·3. "Protected forest" disappeared with the Forest Act, when superseded by the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891. The exact area of the Unclassed State forests over which the Forest Department exercises control has not been ascertained.

10. The first reserved area was the Nambor forest, which was constituted such as far back as 1863. Forest tracts in earlier years were frequently declared reserved, which status simply implied prohibition of alienation and unlicensed fellings or extraction from such areas. Want of knowledge of the country, of surveys, and of facilities for demarcation was responsible for much delay after the preliminary inspections had closed, but subsequent to the constitution of the Chief Commissionership and the severance of the circle from Bengal, reservation proceeded rapidly. There is not much room for further progress in this direction, except where political interests intervene. Some of the most valuable forest tracts have been allotted for tea cultivation, and concessions have been made in other directions. The wasteful process of *jhúming* is rampant in all the hill districts, and it is unfortunate that some system of restriction, consolidation, and rotation cannot be introduced, and forest tracts be ultimately rescued from the wholesale destruction now entailed.

11. General waste, the improvidence of the people, and the enterprise of Preliminary inspections of forests. traders, induced amongst Civil Officers a natural dread of future contingencies, at a time when forest conservancy was attracting some attention in regard to its economic and financial capabilities. But the extension of tea cultivation was primarily responsible for the first demand for a trained Forest-officer's services, and an application for the same was made as early as 1863. No such officer was available till 1868, when the first organised and systematic inspection of forest areas was commenced, and in 1868-69 the Kámrúp and Darrang district had been reported on, and that portion of Lakhimpur north of the Brahmaputra, whilst a special report was submitted on the caoutchouc tree (*Ficus elastica*) in Darrang. In the following year, operations were continued and carried through the Nowgong, Khási and Jaintia Hills, Nága Hills, and Sibságar districts, and that portion of Lakhimpur south of the Brahmaputra, and reports were submitted on the same. These inspections, somewhat desultory and superficial, formed an excellent basis for those of subsequent years. The Goálpára forests are described in the Bengal report for 1868-69, and had been visited, with other Assam forests, by the Bengal Conservator during the year. In 1871-72 the Sylhet district was explored and reported on by a Forest-Officer, and much, though fragmentary, information had been

collected in regard to this and the Cachar district from Civil Officers. Though certain details of administration and revenue collection were dealt with, the recognised duties of Forest-Officers till 1874 were prominently those of inspection, report, and selection of areas for specific treatment. The Gáro Hills district was not reported on fully till 1880-81, but had been partially explored and described in 1873-74. In 1869 and on other occasions the North Cachar Hills received attention, whilst the Jaintia Hills were specially examined in 1872.

12. A brief summary of the result of these inspections furnishes the following particulars.

13. Sál forests existed in the Eastern Duárs, the Gáro Hills, Kámráp, Darrang and Nowgong. Exploitable timber was practically non-existent, all having been extracted, but the

Sál forests.

stock of seedlings, saplings, and young trees was enormous, and only needed protection from devastating annual conflagrations and indiscriminate fellings to produce excellent results. *Jhúming* had made havoc of large tracts in each of the districts, and considerable areas had been allotted for special cultivation in Kámráp and Nowgong. The composition and character of the stock in Darrang and Nowgong was inferior, and the former contained a very small area. Three small clumps of from forty to fifty trees each were found in Lakhimpur, but had been grown artificially, the natural eastern limit of the tree terminating in Darrang. The timber had been extracted in the form of canoes and logs,—the former, a most wasteful process,—but a system which levied royalty on the number of axes used or logs extracted encouraged waste, as great portions of the material were left in the forests. In 1873-74, 27,000 logs were removed from the Eastern Duárs, *i.e.*, from the forests comprising the bulk of the present reserves in the Goálpára forest division, and these forests had been heavily worked over long before the cession of the Duárs in 1866. From inspections made between 1868 and 1872, these forests were estimated to contain $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions of trees, and to be capable of producing 25,000 trees a year after rest and protection for from twenty-five to thirty years. The rigorous reservation and protection of all sál-clad areas was recommended.

14. Excluding Goálpára, all other districts contained extensive areas of mixed and evergreen forests, but it was only in places that these could be favourably reported upon.

Mixed and evergreen forests.

Fires, *jhúming* and unrestricted extractions had made extensive clearances, and valuable forest areas were interspersed with swamp, cane brake and inferior scrub, or open grass plains with scattered useless trees, not even

serviceable as firewood. Though containing specimens of many valuable timbers, the proportion to inferior material was considered very small. Some of the very best areas had been alienated for tea, and in Lakhimpur and Sibságar, saw-mills assisted to hasten the general destruction of what was left. The requirements of the Public Works Department in all districts were granted, free of cost, on application to Deputy Commissioners, whilst the population was privileged to remove all forest produce without limit or restriction, free of payment, if required for domestic use. River banks and all accessible regions, where facilities for transport existed, were denuded of all good timber, the main trade being in canoes. Natural reproduction was not considered hopeful, and it was recognised that departmental working was impracticable on account of transport difficulties and a sparse and supine population. But though the actual area of land occupied at the time was comparatively small, that denuded of its forest growth within a period too recent to allow of the full recuperation of such growth, suggested the occupancy of a dense population. Reservation was not considered generally necessary at first, and a policy of "rest and care" on the part of the civil authorities was recommended. It was believed that control of the forests by Forest-Officers would enhance receipts, but, as recorded in the annual report "to avoid unnecessary friction and jealousies, this was not advocated." Extensive plantations in accessible and favourable localities were suggested, and the growing of teak (*Tectona grandis*), sisu (*Dalbergia sissoo*), sám (*Artocarpus chaplasha*), toon (*Cedrela toona*), and ajhar (*Lagerstræmia fls reginæ*).

15. Sum (*Machilus odoratissima*) areas in clumps, seldom exceeding a mile in extent, were scattered on a large scale throughout Lakhimpur and Sibságar, and were of pure and excellent character, and capable of rearing ten times the number of silkworms cultivated. The silk industry was then buoyant, though indications of decline were visible, owing to the introduction of cheaper European fabrics. The forests were leased at 8 annas and returned from Rs. 12-8 to Rs. 20 per *bigha* to the lessees, failures only occurring once in ten years. Clumps of these trees, but to a very much smaller extent, were found in the other valley districts, except Goálpára. Other silk-rearing trees and shrubs existed and were cultivated, whilst lac was propagated to a very large extent on the many varieties of figs found throughout the province.

16. The rubber (*Ficus elastica*) forests were practically confined to the Darrang and Lakhimpur districts, and the value of the product is sufficient excuse for a more

Sum forests.

Rubber forests.

elaborate description of them than the concise ones given of the other forests.

17. In this district the caoutchouc tree was found growing sporadically to the extent of about twenty trees per square mile

Darrang.

of forest-clad land. Three distinct tracts were

recognised, the western, central, and eastern portions of the district. The first, estimated at 40 square miles, was most ruthlessly worked over, the existing trees being in a state of absolute exhaustion, whilst large numbers had been killed outright by fellings with the axe, burnings, and the exhaustive hacking of terrestrial and aerial roots, the branches, and trunks. These forests had been leased to Mr. C. P. Bruce on the 1st May 1863 for one year for Rs. 1,525, and the planting of 400 rubber trees over the exploited area. Kyahs held the lease on the same planting conditions for Rs. 1,012 during the following year, and it was known that they paid for the extraction of 2,500 maunds of rubber. The central tract of about 420 square miles contained trees which had been subjected to reckless felling and impoverishment, but not to the same extent as the western zone. From the 1st July 1852, it had been leased to Messrs. Martin, Ritchie & Co., of Tezpur, for fifteen years free of payment, on the sole condition that collections were to be limited to a period extending from the 1st November to the 30th of the following April annually, and that 200 rubber trees, 60 feet apart, were to be planted each year. Trees were found to a depth of 16 miles from the hills, but advancing towards drier atmospheric regions they decrease in number and in the quantity of their yield. During the last year of the lease the lessees ceased collection, as it proved unremunerative, owing to the exhausted condition of the trees, which was visible three years afterwards. The eastern region, where trees were confined to the immediate proximity of the hills, suffered similar experiences. It was leased on the 1st April 1868 for one year on the same conditions as the western area for Rs. 1,300. A monopoly without supervision naturally induced wholesale destruction, and the planting conditions were either wholly neglected, or made to suit the planter's convenience, without reference to conditions suitable to the tree. It was suggested that three working circles should be formed, omitting the totally-impoverished western zone, and that a three years' rotation should be established, plantations being created in each circle as worked over.

18. Rubber trees were scattered throughout the forest area of the district and were generally of a finer character than those

Lakhimpur.

in Darrang, but of their condition much the same

description of account is given as in the previous paragraph. It was

believed that much of the exported material was from foreign territory. The practical monopoly of the latter, which the lease of Government forests suggested, induced an European dealer in 1873 to offer a lakh of rupees per annum for three years for the monopoly of the rubber forests in the district. They were not leased that year for fear of frontier complications. The Commissioner proposed establishing a Government monopoly and buying in at an established *dépôt*, selling from thence by auction or otherwise periodically. The Lieutenant-Governor concurred in the proposition, but, details not having been settled, the matter was allowed to drop.

19. Information from the Surma Valley was fragmentary, but it was reported that the higher hills were covered with forests, with extensive areas in the plains. The timber was said to be magnificent, and, despite the nominal rights of certain natives, on the lines but not tantamount to those in permanently-settled estates, the management of the forests by Government was recommended, as they were mostly uninhabited and almost impenetrable. Wholesale denudations for tea gardens and trade in accessible regions were commented on, and the extensive practice of *jhúming* deplored. From Cachar the supply of timber was large and a boat trade existent, whilst revenue was also derived from bamboos, grass, wax, and lac dye, as well as from rubber and agar. A transit duty on exports was enforced at Sialtek, the right of collection being farmed in 1868-69 for Rs. 11,035. Little or no revenue was collected from Sylhet, and restrictions had to be placed on the felling of timber in 1871-72. The Collector of this district a hundred years previously is reported to have built a fleet of sea-going ships with Cachar timber. Rubber in Cáchar was in the same exhausted condition as in Assam Proper, and there had been considerable import from Lushai and Manipur territory for many years.

20. Sisu and khair forests are limited in area, growing gregariously in compact blocks, with a small proportion of the associated species they favour, and are chiefly confined to the Goálpára district. Khair in almost pure blocks is found in the east of Goálpára and west of Darrang. Extraction of cutch was unknown locally.

21. Pine forests are confined to the higher Khási and Jaintia Hills, and were chiefly private property. They contained little timber, and had suffered terribly from fires and the prevalent custom of *jhúming*. Some of these forests were leased by Government as far back as 1859, and were farmed out subsequently.

The forests were pure and predominant when growing at a height of 3,000 feet and more, but at lower elevations, though the trees were frequently finer specimens, they grew isolated or amidst mixed forests.

ORGANISATION AND RULES.

22. The Gáro Hills, Kámráp, and Goálpára districts furnished timber to Bengal long anterior to the introduction of British rule. In 1850, the Collector of Kámráp represented to the Commissioner of Assam that Bengal woodcutters had found their way to his district in search of sál, after depleting the Lower Assam forests by indiscriminate fellings. Instead of the then existing unauthorised cesses of ordinary fiscal officers, he recommended imposing a tax of Rs. 15 on each hundred logs. To ensure natural reproduction, a check on the felling of young trees and the prevention of waste was suggested. These views were adopted, but in 1852 the Board of Revenue superseded the system, farming forest tracts for quinquennial or shorter periods without restrictions, leaving sylvicultural considerations for a period when forest areas were more cleared. This system gradually extended and prevailed throughout the Darrang and Nowgong districts in 1861, and continued current in Kámráp till 1863. The Revenue Commissioner's letter No. 182, dated the 16th March 1863, to the Board of Revenue, fixed rates of royalty to be realised on timber in the Darrang, Nowgong, and Lakhimpur districts, and levies were made on rubber collections, the cultivation of stick lac, and the use of sum forests. Up to 1868 all forest requirements, without restriction in quantity or quality, were granted free to the people, but in that year certain restrictions were instituted in Goálpára, whereby forest privileges were granted in return for assistance rendered and protection afforded to the forests, under conditions somewhat similar to those enjoyed during the divided British and Bhutia occupation. *Jhámíng* was prohibited in virgin sál areas, though permitted in isolated blocks of the Eastern Duárs. In the same district a system of concurrent control was instituted, by which the fiscal officer (tahsildar) issued permits for sales of all timber, except sál and sisu, under two spans in girth, used in the manufacture of domestic requirements, ranging from three pies for a pestle to two annas for a house post or a log six feet long. A register was kept for the Forest-Officer's inspection, and the felling of sál or sisu, or removal of any description of logs over six feet in length, required his permission. For the export trade, Rs. 4-4 per axe was levied, which practically came to 2 annas 8 pies per sál tree, as each man was expected to work out 50 logs per annum at 2 logs to the tree. In this same year (1868) a new

revenue system was devised and made generally applicable throughout the valley districts. The forests, with other lands, were made over to the care and control of the mauzadár.

23. Up to 1867, the Cachar forests were open to the public, free of charge, for all produce, and to the hill tribes for temporary cultivation, but royalty was levied on exports beyond Sialtek in pursuance of a custom, existing before the district became a British possession, and the tapping of rubber trees had been interdicted since 1863. The lease of the Sialtek toll station was sold annually and realised a sum of Rs. 1,06,141 during the period 1866-67 to 1874-75, during two years of which period the collections were made by the Deputy Commissioner. Authorised rates, to be levied at this station, were fixed, varying from 6 pies for planks to Rs. 5 for jarul (*Lagerstræmia flos rengine*) logs 30 feet long. For trade purposes, permits also issued for six months' periods, restricting extraction of jarul and nagesar (*Mesua ferrea*) to 4 feet girth, but unlimited in all other respects. Each license cost Rs. 5, if not covering more than ten men, an additional 8 annas having to be paid for each extra member of the gang. It was calculated that the Government tax was from 3 pies to 3 annas 4 pies per cubic foot of timber, which realised in the market Re. 1-8 to Rs. 2-6.

24. In 1869-70, saw-mill agencies in Lakhimpur and Sibságar were authorised to fell and remove timber, without restriction in size, quantity, quality or control, on condition that rates subsequently fixed by the Department should be paid. The mauzadárs supposed to supervise these proceedings made handsome profits as contractors of supplies of forest-produce.

25. Previous to 1871-72 the Forest Department had no authority under the Bengal rules in any Assam forests, but subsequently various areas having been declared "reserved" or "open forests," the rules were applied, but only partially. In this year, it was proposed to subordinate the local Forest-Officers to the Commissioner of Assam, and the arrangement was subsequently sanctioned, the Bengal Conservator retaining control of the accounts, and having the power to inspect and make suggestions. In 1872-73, three classes of trees were prescribed, of which the third only was allowed to be removed free for domestic purposes. The other two classes, comprising 29 trees, could only be removed on permit, and on payment of Rs. 8 for sál, Rs. 6 for other first class trees, and Rs. 3 for second class trees, no fellings being permitted in either case of trees less than 5 feet and 4 feet in girth, respectively. Sum and rubber trees had not been declared reserved.

26. In 1874-75 special rules were published for the better management and preservation of the reserved forests in the Naga Hills territory. Elsewhere in Assam, the Bengal Forest Rules, sanctioned by the Supreme Government in Public Works Department Notification No. 13-F., dated the 16th February 1871, were enforced in reserved and open forests gazetted under Act VII of 1865. In 1875-76 the Chief Commissioner laid down general principles for—

- (a) dealing with applications for timber-bearing lands ;
- (b) for the regulation of the cutting of the 29 royalty-paying trees ; and
- (c) restrictions in the practice of *jhúming*.

27. In the same year, in Circular No. 52, dated the 13th September 1876, published in the *Assam Gazette* of the 16th September 1876, the Bengal rules were superseded by the

Assam Forest Rules.

Assam Forest Rules. The provisions of Parts IV and V regarding transit and punishment were declared not applicable in a notification, dated the 10th November 1876, to the Khasi, Gáo Hills or Naga Hills districts, and a list of rivers open for transport of produce was published in a notification of the 27th March 1877, and added to in another of the 29th November 1879. A notification of the 22nd September 1877 prescribed restrictions in the Langai and Singla open forests in Sylhet, and sanctioned rates of toll for forest produce removed from them. Rules published in Circular No. 43, dated the 10th August 1877, superseded the 1875 rules for "open forests," distinguishing between "superior" and "inferior" forests, as guides for Civil Officers in the direction of judicious alienation and of prevention of *jhúming* as far as possible. The number of reserved trees was reduced to 12, in three separate lists for Lower Assam, Upper Assam, and the Surma Valley, and three rates of payment were introduced : Rs. 10 for *sál*, Rs. 6 for reserved, and Rs. 2 for unreserved trees, and to the 12 were added rubber-yielding trees, these used in the propagation of lac and the cultivation of the silkworm. Rules were also drawn up for payment of royalty for timber on land allotted for cultivation. In no forest, superior or inferior, were Raiyyats to be charged for timber *boná fide* required for their own use, other than reserved trees. The issue of these rules raised the revenue from Rs. 42,000 in 1876-77 to Rs. 1,22,000 in 1878-79. In this latter year, rules were drawn up for the protection of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills forests, and royalty was fixed on three descriptions of bamboos. In Circular No. 27, dated the 15th October 1878, it was laid down that annual tenants need not pay for reserved timber on their land, unless they felled it, in which case the usual rates were to be charged. Such trees as were planted or reared by the tenant might be felled without payment. In the Gáo Hills, royalty was

fixed on three classes of trees used for trade purposes, at Rs. 8, Rs. 4, and Rs. 2, respectively, whilst *gurkāti* rates were fixed for foreigners at Re. 1 and for natives at 6 annas per annum. Rubber might be collected on permits, according to a custom existing for some time, and must be sold to Government at Rs. 20 per maund. The Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878, was enforced from the 8th March 1878, and rules subsequent to those above quoted were framed under it. Forests up to that time known as "open" were practically divided into "protected" and "district" forests, the former being specially gazetted under the Act.

28. The issue of rules, in the form of notifications or circulars, was very active after this as the following summary will show :

Rules—1879-81.

Rules regarding hunting of elephants and poisoning of water in Government reserved forests.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 4th October 1879.

Powers delegated to Forest-Officers under the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 4th October 1879.

Rules for regulating payments for timber on land leased under Waste Land rules.—Circular No. 50, dated the 25th September 1879.

Rules for the examination of Forest-Officers.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 5th December 1879.

Assam River Rules.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 4th August 1880.

Ditto .—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 12th March 1881.

Bhutan Timber Rules.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 4th August 1880.

Cachar River Rules.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 6th November 1880.

Duty on foreign timber in Cachar.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 15th May 1880.

Royalty on forest produce in Cachar.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 15th June 1880.

Royalty on river-borne forest-produce in the valley districts of Assam.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 14th August 1880.

Rewards for cases under the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878.—*Assam Gazette*, dated the 8th January 1881.

29. The Chief Commissioner's Resolution No. 1812, dated the 29th December 1881, created a complete revolution in forest administration, associating the Revenue and Forest Departments by giving the latter control over forests of every description, with the subordinate fiscal agency to assist in the administration of the same, the whole framework to be subordinated to district officers. That this was essential in the interests of forest conservancy had long been

Control of all forests made over to Forest-Officers.

established, for departmental control had hitherto been confined to forests gazetted under Act VII of 1878.

Rules—1882-83.

30. The issue of rules then continued as under :

Revised rules for rates of royalty to be paid on produce and changes of forest revenue stations in Cachar.—Notifications Nos. 1, 2 and 3, dated the 11th January 1882.

Drift Timber Rules in the district of Cachar.—Notification No. 10, dated the 27th April 1882.

The 1875 and 1877 rules were then superseded by the Chief Commissioner's Resolution No. 697, dated the 13th April 1883, prescribing rules for—

(a) District forests in the Assam Valley districts.

(b) District forests in Sylhet and Cachar.

The following Notifications in the *Assam Gazette* followed :

List of reserved trees declared under the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878, including 23 specially mentioned, and those used for cultivating silk-worms, propagating lac, or yielding rubber.—Notification No. 17, dated the 13th April 1883.

Rates of royalty to be paid on trees in the Assam Valley districts.—Notification No. 18, dated the 13th April 1883.

Rates of royalty to be paid on trees in Cachar and Sylhet.—Notification No. 30, dated the 20th December 1882.

31. The Gáro Hills Regulation No. 1 of 1882 was published in the Government of India, Legislative Department, Notification No. 8, dated the 21st July 1882. It came into force from 5th August and rules were framed under it in Chief Commissioner's Notifications Nos. 67J. of 1st August and 80J. of 9th October 1882.

Gáro Hills Regulation.

Rules—1883-84.

32. Rules continued to be published in the *Assam Gazette* as follow :

Rules for district forests in the Assam Valley districts and Sylhet and Cachar.—Notification No. 35, dated the 23rd August 1883.

Sylhet River Rules.—Notification No. 22, dated the 10th May 1883.

Rules for district forests in the Jaintia Hills.—Notification without date, Part II, *Assam Gazette*, dated the 29th March 1884.

Rates of royalty on forest-produce for Sylhet and Cachar.—Notification No. 39, dated the 20th December 1883.

33. In Chief Commissioner's Circular No. 19, dated the 25th April 1884, when rates of royalty to be paid on timber or other forest-produce on leased lands were fixed, it was declared that there was no desire to assert the rights of Government to forest-produce other than reserved trees standing on lands already settled on annual, decennial, and *nisf-khiraj* leases. No royalty was to be paid for trees, where such had been realised when the lease was given, nor should any be realised on trees grown since the lease was issued, and *nisf-khiraj* estates were only to pay half rates. This Circular made over the valuations of timber on waste land grants to Forest-Officers, this having previously been done by Deputy Commissioners.

Rules—1884-90.

34. The following Notifications appeared subsequently:

Rates of royalty on trees and forest-produce in the Assam Valley districts.—Notification No. 11, dated the 25th April 1884.

Assam River Rules.—Notification No. 9, dated the 13th March 1885.

The following changes in forest rules were sanctioned during the year 1885-86 :

The Assam District Forest Rules were extended to all forests situated within the plains of the Nāga Hills district.—Notification No. 35, dated the 19th December 1885.

The control over forest-produce in transit was extended to the Surma and Kushiara rivers and their tributaries, under the Sylhet River Rules.—Notification No. 32, dated the 19th November 1885.

The inhabitants of the Jaintia Hills were exempted from the payment of royalty on forest-produce, other than timber, removed by them for sale from the Jaintia Hills district forests.—Notification No. 3, dated the 11th February 1886.

In 1886-87 :

The working out of firewood on time permits was extended to Sylhet and Cachar. The makai-tree (*Shorea Assamica*) was added to the list of reserved trees.—Notification No. 45, dated the 5th August 1887.

The collection of royalty according to cubic contents was authorised for the Assam Valley districts and the rates fixed.—Notification No. 59, dated the 21st September 1886.

The fee payable on a home consumption permit in Sylhet and Cachar was increased from annas 8 to Re. 1.—Notification No. 4, dated the 11th January 1887.

Dhubri and Fakirganj, in the Goálpára district, were gazetted as places where timber and other forest-produce shall be stopped for examination, and the payment of any revenue which may be due.—Notification No. 5, dated the 25th January 1887.

The collecting of royalty on thatching-grass and reeds exported by the Brahmaputra from the valley districts was authorised.—Notification No. 6, dated the 25th January 1887.

The control over forest-produce in transit, under the Sylhet River Rules, was extended to the Barak, Gopla, Khoai, Karangi, Manu, and Dhalai rivers in the district of Sylhet.—Notification No. 16, dated the 14th March 1887.

The following places were gazetted as forest revenue stations under the Sylhet River Rules.—Notification No. 18, dated the 21st March 1887 :

- (i) Silua on the Juri river.
- (ii) Maulvi Bázár on the Manu river.
- (iii) Muchikandi on the Khoai river.

In 1887-88 :

The fee payable for home consumption permits by raiyyats in the Jaintia parganas was raised from 8 annas to Re. 1.—Notification No. 35, dated the 6th June 1887.

The fee to be paid for registering a property mark used for marking timber in the province of Assam was fixed at Rs. 5.—Notification No. 42, dated the 21st July 1887.

The quantities of timber and other forest produce which may be removed on a home consumption permit were fixed, and the issue of special home consumption permits by Deputy Commissioners was permitted ; the payment of a fee of 8 annas for a special permit was prescribed.—Notifications Nos. 44 and 45, dated the 5th August 1887.

The meaning of the term “ raiyyats,” with respect to the issue of home consumption permits, was extended to all persons who hold or cultivate land.—Notifications Nos. 44 and 45, dated the 5th August 1887.

The collecting of duty on all timber brought from beyond the frontier of British India, except Bhutan, or from beyond the Inner Line by the Brahmaputra or any of its tributaries into the valley districts of Assam was authorised from the 1st October 1887, and the rates of duty fixed.—Notification No. 49, dated the 19th August 1887.

Sadiya and Dibrugarh, in the district of Lakhimpur, were prescribed as forest control stations under the Assam River Rules.—Notification No. 50, dated the 19th August 1887.

The control over cane and rubber *maháls* in Assam was vested in the Conservator of Forests.—Chief Commissioner's letter No. 549, dated the 17th February 1888.

Deputy Commissioners were permitted to authorise the procuring of timber and other forest-produce by raiyats from other mauzas and

other districts than such in which they might be living, if not procurable in the latter.—Notification No. 9, dated the 1st March 1888.

In 1888-89 :

The control over agar and lac *máhals* was vested in the Conservator of Forests.—Chief Commissioner's letter No. 1615, dated the 8th June 1888, and No. 2306, dated the 4th August 1888.

The pass fee on logs imported from Bhutan, and not exceeding 3 feet in girth, was reduced to 4 annas per log.—Notification No. 24, dated the 28th June 1888.

Mekla and Dehingmukh, in the Lakhimpur and Sibságar districts, were prescribed as forest control stations under the Assam River Rules.—Notification No. 19, dated the 31st May 1888.

The encampment of troops in Government reserved forests was restricted to the grounds provided for that purpose.—Revenue Department Circular No. 43, dated the 15th September 1888.

The fee payable by Gáros on a *gurkái* license was raised from 6 annas to Rs. 2.—Letter No. 176, dated the 24th January 1889.

Trees on the leaves of which silkworms are fed, or on which the lac insect is reared, or such as yield India-rubber or caoutchouc, ceased to be reserved trees under section 29 (a) of Act VII of 1878 (The Indian Forest Act), except the India-rubber tree (*Ficus elastica*).—Notification No. 9, dated the 14th March 1889.

In 1889-90 :

New river rules were sanctioned for the Assam Valley districts.—Notification No. 49, dated the 4th December 1889.

The forest revenue station of Pobha, on the Brahmaputra, was closed.—Notification No. 19, dated the 31st May 1888.

The free use of drift timber was restricted to raiyyats collecting it for their own domestic and agricultural purposes, and not for purposes of trade.—Notification No. 42, dated the 1st November 1889.

Deputy Commissioners received power to reduce the royalty or to exempt timber altogether from royalty, if brought by hill people from beyond the Inner Line, if necessary, for political reasons.—Revenue Department Circular No. 55, dated the 27th June 1889.

The rules regarding the valuation of trees on land to be allotted for cultivation were revised.—Circular No. 65, dated the 15th July 1889. Additional orders regarding the issue of free permits to raiyyats to obtain forest-produce for home consumption were issued.—Revenue Department Circular No. 83, dated the 31st October 1889.

The fee payable by Gáros on a *gurkátí* license was reduced from Rs. 2 to Re. 1.—Chief Commissioner's No. 2002, dated the 20th June 1889.

Hunting, shooting, or fishing in reserved forests without a license was prohibited.—Notification No. 21, dated the 10th July 1889.

35. For a considerable time, the inefficacy of the Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878, in dealing with matters connected with district forests, had been recognised, this Act only dealing with reserved, protected, and village forests. All land being at the disposal of Government in this province, it was essential that the Local Administration should have power to make rules and enforce penalties over such areas as were not contemplated by the Forest Act. Rules made regarding such areas could only be dealt with by prosecutions under the Penal Code or by resort to the Civil Courts. To remedy the inconvenience such measures entailed, Sir Charles Elliott, K.C.S.I., proposed, in 1882, to substitute Chapters III and IV of the Burma Forest Act, XIX of 1881, for corresponding chapters in the Indian Forest Act, but considered it desirable to defer this step till the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation came into force. The Indian Forest Act, as amended in 1891, did not remove the difficulties experienced. After the inspection of the Inspector General of Forests, he declared the Forest Act to be inapplicable to Assam for the same reason which led to its rejection in Burma, and the adoption of the Upper Burma Regulation of 1887 was recommended. The Chief Commissioner considered it desirable, however, to have a separate and self-contained Regulation for the province, adapted to its own local conditions and containing references to its own enactments in force in the province. This resulted in the enactment of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, which came into force on the 1st April 1892. All rules previously in force have now been revised and consolidated and published under this Regulation.

36. In 1894-95 :

Rules 1894-97.
Under sections 24 (c) and 72. Sporting rules for reserved forests in Assam were published in the Notification No. 607-R., dated the 22nd February 1895.

Under section 32 (a). Certain trees were declared to be "reserved" trees in Assam in the Notification No. 608-R., dated the 22nd February 1895.

Under sections 33, 34 (2) (c, e, g, h, and 35 (2)). Rules relating to unclassified State forests were published in Notification No. 609-R., dated the 22nd February 1895, which were held to have effect in their entirety in the Assam Valley districts, the North Cachar Hills, and the Surma Valley districts; and, as regards charges for trade and home

consumption permits, in the Jaintia Hills ; in these rules the expression " unclassified State forests " was declared to mean " any forest standing on land, and also waste land, at the disposal of Government, and not included in a reserved or village forest. "

In the Notification No. 606-R., dated the 22nd February 1895, rates of duty were prescribed that shall be levied on timber and bamboos brought into the Assam Valley districts by the Brahmaputra, or any of its tributaries, from any place beyond the limits of the province (except Bhutan) or from beyond the Inner Line, and brought into the Surma Valley districts by the Barak and Katakhal rivers, or any of their tributaries.

Under sections 37 (1) and 40 (2) (g).

In the Kámrúp district, Roha was declared to be a revenue station for the realisation of duty leviable on India-rubber, with effect from 3rd October 1894 ; but as this place was found to be unsuitable for the purpose, Chuliakatta was substituted for it in Notification No. 2235-R., dated the 26th June 1895.

Under section 40.

Routes by which alone all forest-produce shall be exported from, or removed within, the district of Kámrúp were declared in the Notification No. 5492-R., dated the 29th November 1894, in which also revenue stations were fixed to which all forest-produce shall be taken for examination.

In the Notification No. 610-R., dated the 22nd February 1895, the Assam River Rules, regulating the transit of forest-produce, were published ; these comprise the Assam Valley River Rules, which apply to the Goálpára, Kámrúp, Darrang, Nowgong, Sibságar and Lakhimpur districts ; the Bhutan Timber Rules, for imports ; the Surma Valley River Rules, which apply to the Sylhet and Cachar districts ; Rules for the registration of the property-marks, applicable to all Assam.

Ajhara, in the Kámrúp district, is declared to be a check station to which all forest-produce removed from the Rani range shall be brought for examination and for payment of dues (if any), by the Notification No. 2983-R., dated the 3rd July 1894.

Under section 40 (2) (f).

Drift Timber Rules for the Assam Valley districts and for the Cachar district were published in the Notification No. 611-R., dated the 22nd February 1895.

Under section 48 (1).

Rules regulating the powers of Forest-Officers were published in the Notification No. 612-R., dated the 22nd February 1895.

Under sections 68 and 72.

In 1895-96 :

Notification No. 4687-R., dated the 29th November 1895. In the "Sporting Rules" for reserved forests, under sections 72 and 24 (c), the penalty clause on the license form was amended.

Notification No. 4689-R., dated the 29th November 1895. In the rules relating to unclassified State forests, under sections 33, 34 (2) *c, e, g* and *h*, and 35 (2), certain minor amendments were made.

Notification No. 618-R., dated the 18th February 1896. In the Rules relating to unclassified State forests, under sections 33, 34 (2) *c, e, g* and *h*, and 35 (2), certain minor amendments were made.

Notification No. 1226-R., dated the 9th April 1896. In the rules relating to unclassified State forests, under sections 33, 34 (2) *c, e, g* and *h*, and 35 (2), certain minor amendments were made.

In 1896-97 :

Notification No. 2700-R., dated the 6th July 1896, supersedes Notification No. 611-R., dated the 22nd February 1895, regulating the salvaging, collection and disposal of drift timber in the Assam Valley districts and in the districts of Cachar and Sylhet.

Notification No. 3356-R., dated the 17th August 1896. Rules for the protection of reserved forests from fire.

Notification No. 3926-R., dated the 23rd September 1896. Rules relating to unclassified State forests.

Notification No. 3959-R., dated the 23rd September 1896. Rules regulating the powers of Forest-Officers.

The various rules promulgated with reference to "protected forests" are omitted, such forests being now non-existent under the Assam Forest Regulation.

37. Forest settlements present no difficulties in Assam, where, with the exception of the private estates in the Khási and Jaintia Hills, all land is the sole property of the State, but there are permanently-settled estates in the Goálpára and Sylhet districts. The "record-of-rights" in the "Register of reserved Forests" contains various concessions and temporary privileges granted by the Chief Commissioner, of which a list is separately furnished. Further concessions in other forests are entered in Part III, section IV, of this Manual.

Concessions.

38. The following concessions have also been made :

"The Assam Railways Company, Limited," in Lakhimpur district are entitled to fell and use without payment of royalty on such Government

land as may be assigned for the purpose any timber required for the purpose of the railway either in the original construction or subsequent maintenance of the line and for fuel, but not for sale or export: provided always that no timber felled under this clause shall be burnt where it falls, but must be stacked and stored for fuel or must be utilised for the other requirements of the said Company: provided also that nothing in the preceding *proviso* contained shall be held to prevent the said Company burning scrub and underwood (when it shall be necessary so to do for clearance purposes) in the manner usual in the district: provided also that the right conferred upon the said Company in this clause shall be limited to a period of five years* from the date on which the line is opened (under the Government subsidy) to traffic, and shall be exercised strictly subject to the following conditions:

1st—That the localities where the timber is cut on Government land by the said Company shall be only those selected, defined and assigned by the Forest Department.

2nd—That no trees be cut by the said Company on Government land, except such as are marked for the purpose by officers of the Forest Department.

3rd—That all cut timber not removed on to the premises of the said Company before the expiry of the said period of five years shall become the property of Government.

39. The Assam Railways and Trading Company, Limited, in Lakhimpur district have "liberty and license to use timber and wood from such place or places within the limits of the said lands as the Government may from time to time sanction for the manufacture of barrels or boxes in which to pack the oil and for all other purposes connected with the oil works, for the construction of roads, railways, buildings, boats, the bridging of streams and for use as fuel, and also with the permission of the Government first had and obtained to cut down any trees that it may be necessary to remove for the construction of the railways, buildings, roads, paths or canals * * * *

* * * for the term of eighteen years and ten months† * * * *

That the Company shall not be entitled to sell, take away, or export any timber from the said lands, except in the shape of barrels or boxes containing vessels full of oil, and they shall not without special permission of the Government use for fuel or destroy or cut down for any purpose any of the kinds of timber defined as reserved timber by the Forest Rules, and they shall not destroy any forest or other trees the timber of which they do not require for any of the uses in this indenture specified or the space

* From 6th February 1885 to 5th February 1890.

† From December 1882 to October 1901.

occupied by which is not required for their operations and which have not first been marked for destruction by officers of the Forest Department : Provided always that nothing herein contained shall be taken to in any way modify or interfere with the rights already acquired by the Company under the concessions obtained by them from Government previous to the execution of this indenture."

40. The Balipara Tramway Company, Limited, received the following timber concessions, extractions being made from the Darrang, Lakhimpur and Sibságar divisions :

First class timber	...	...	...	...	52,820 c. ft.
Second „ „	...	...	...	...	1,000 „

The concession was sanctioned in the Chief Commissioner's No. 411, dated the 3rd February 1894.

41. Concessions were also made to the Assam Railways Company, Limited, for the extraction of coal and iron from the Makum coal-fields in an indenture, dated the 26th July 1881.

42. Attention was continuously directed towards the necessity for conspicuous delineation of reserved boundaries marching on other lands at the disposal of Government or private owners, but, owing to want of accurate maps and the means for conducting surveys, no work was commenced till 1874-75. This periphery is defined by posts of heart wood, serially numbered for each reserve, embedded in mounds 5 feet in height and 10 feet in diameter. Boundaries contiguous with provincial ones were defined by the Boundary Commissioners and described in the following notifications :

Cachar South Inner Line—Foreign Department Notification No. 2299-P., dated the 20th August 1875.

Lakhimpur Inner Line—Foreign Department Notification No. 2427-P., dated the 3rd September 1875.

Darrang Inner Line—Foreign Department Notification No. 631-P., dated the 8th March 1876.

These and other provincial boundaries are attended to by the civil authorities. That lying between Bhutan and Goálpára was demarcated again by the Imperial Forest Survey branch when conducting operations in the division, and the clearance from boundary pillar to boundary pillar was only completed in 1896. The demarcation of the Nambar reserve is still defective, as is that of reserves in Sylhet bordering on Tipperah. Existing

boundaries are cleared of jungle annually and boundary mounds are repaired ; the following table gives details for averages of periods noted :

Period.	Total length of artificial boundaries in miles.	Artificial boundaries cleared in miles.	Total number of boundary mounds.	Number of boundary mounds repaired.	Total cost.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					Rs.	
1874-75 to 1878-79 ... ..	...	...	...	...	7,737	* Figures not furnished.
1879-80 ,, 1883-84	7806	5505	4,582b	3,784b	36,115	b Figures for 2 years only.
1881-85 ,, 1888-89	1,034	941	4,992	4,471	31,241	
1889-90 ,, 1893-94	1,163	1,109	4,991c	4,882c	19,626	c Figures for 3 years only.
1894-95	1,156	1,122	4,993	4,730	3,188	
1895-96	1,156	1,103	4,982	4,680	3,790	

43. Demarcation has thus cost to date Rs. 1,01,697, which would average nearly Rs. 28 per square mile over an area of 3,685 square miles, and this includes the cost of all internal boundaries. In this case, as in that of fire protection, much work is done free of cost to Government in lieu of forest privileges or grants.

44. Numerous surveys have been conducted in the province by departmental agency, advantage being taken, where possible, of sheets published by the Survey of India Department. These surveys have no scientific value, however, the prismatic compass furnishing the basis as well as details of the work. In the Gáro Hills, the Darugiri, Songsac, and Rongrengiri reserves had their perimeters surveyed with the theodolite and details with compass and plane table. This was in 1886 to 1888. The Imperial Forest Survey extended their operations over 522 square miles of the Goálpára reserves from November 1889 to June 1893, furnishing full topographical details with distinctions of classification, which was only done partially and over a very limited area of other surveys. All forest reserves are entered on Survey of India Department sheets in the Conservator's and divisional offices. A large number of the surveys were in connection with enumeration of stock, and up to the

close of 1891-92 the cost of surveys and working plans were not separated, consequently the figures furnished below include both charges :

Per					Cost.
					Rs.
1874-75 to 1878 79	...	...	...	...	7,613
1879-80 „ 1883-84	...	...	...	...	20,172
1884-85 „ 1888-89	...	...	...	...	33,426
1889-90 „ 1893-94	...	...	...	...	1,11,695
1894-95	...	...	...	...	4,009
1895-96	...	...	...	...	1,838
Total					1,78,553

WORKING PLANS.

45. Valuations of stock have been made at various periods as a preliminary measure towards the preparation of working

Enumeration surveys.

plans of an elementary character, but except in Goalpara the figures have not been utilized. They are collated and furnished below :

Year.	Division.	Area in acres.	Total number of trees.					Kind of tree.
			1st class.	2nd class.	3rd class.	4th class.	5th class.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1872-73	Kamrup ...	100	1,012	1,818	10,342	...	...	S&L.
„	Nowgong ...	103	...	28	1,552	...	...	„
1873-74	„ ...	1,995	...	261	1,022	5,026	40,707	„
„	Darrang ...	624	6	293	748	1,490	...	„
1875-76	Goalpara ...	100	...	15	394	2,396	...	„
1876-77	„ ...	100	...	28	673	4,949	...	„
1877-78	„ ...	100	...	46	595	3,877	...	„
1878-79	Kamrup ...	200	5	185	814	3,424	...	„
1879-80	Goalpara ...	4	...	2	91	456	...	„
1883-84	„ ...	3	...	11	17	51	...	„
1872-73	Mikir Hills ...	100	754	...	...	...	...	Valuable trees other than S&L.
„	Nambar Forest	100	200	576	1,265	...	...	Ditto ditto.
1873-74	Nowgong ...	1,995	6	617	298	6,210	23,974	Ditto ditto.

* Numbers not recorded.

1st class trees are over 6 feet in girth.

2nd class trees are from 4½ feet to 6 feet in girth.

3rd class trees are from 3 feet to 4½ feet in girth.

4th class trees are from 1½ feet to 3 feet in girth.

5th class trees are under 1½ feet in girth.

Counting concentric rings.

46. The counting of concentric rings of *sál* trees gave the following results:

Year.	Division.	Girth classes.				Number of trees.	Locality.
		18"	36"	54"	72"		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1873-74 ...	Kámruép ...	30	56	82	115	40	Hills.
" ...	" ...	32	65	96	126		Plains.
1874-75 ...	Goálpára ...	28	52	89	...	20	"
1877-78 ...	" ...	28	51	72	90	17	"

47. The counting of *makai* (*Shorea Asamica*) trees in 1888-89 in the Makum forest, Lakhimpur division, showed that the exploitable tree must be fixed at 6 feet in girth, that the area contained 6,040 such trees, and that not more than 355 could be felled annually in the first period of 17 years. The counting of concentric rings showed it advisable to fix the rotation at 86 years, the age classes being—

Class I, 7½ feet and over in girth	...	...	...	86 years.
" II, 6	...	...	...	74 "
" III, 4½	...	...	...	61 "
" IV, 3	...	...	...	46 "
" V, 1½	...	...	...	30 "

48. In two divisions only are there prescribed working plans; in the Gáro Hills, in which the Dambu and Darugiri reserves are systematically organised; and in the Goálpára division where all *sál*-clad areas are similarly treated. In the Gáro Hills reserves, prescriptions permit of fellings of all exploitable trees within the period, without restriction of numbers in any of the definite included years. In the Goálpára division, on the other hand, each year's limit is fixed. Of the 2,050 trees felled in Dambu, as exhibited in the attached table, no less than 2,002 were felled previous to or at the time enumerations were being conducted, these latter having included stumps. The deficit fellings are exceedingly heavy, due to a reduced foreign demand and to a certain curtailment owing to sylvicultural restrictions as to locality, selection, etc. The counting

of concentric rings of trees affected by these plans gave the following results :

Year.	Division.	Girth classes.				Number of trees.	Locality.
		18"	36"	54"	72"		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1872-73	... Gáro Hills ...	33	61	96	111	31	Hills.
"	... Goalpára ...	29	62	88	...	26	Plains.

Assuming each concentric ring to represent a year's growth, and allowing, for minor differences, the periods at which each class attains its girth may be fixed at 30,60,90, and 120 years, respectively, which results practically agree with those of earlier years.

Details of plans.

49. The attached table furnishes particulars regarding these systematised areas :

Division.	Reserve.	Number of				Date of introduction of plan.	Exploit-able girth fixed.	Period of rotation.	Number of felling.				Number of sal trees in each class.				Area in acres.	Remarks.	
		Circles.	Compartments.						Prescribed.	Made to 30th June 1890.	Remaining.	1	2	3	4				
			3	4	5											6			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
Garo Hills	Dambu	1	7	36	1887-88	4½ feet	15 years	8,000	2,032	5,948	6,978	8,079	12,827	27,820	4,472	95,551 sap- lings under 1½ feet in girth.			
"	Darugri	1	1	20	1890-91	"	"	7,000	"	7,000	4,079	9,365	15,914	23,623	2,443	40,789 sap- lings under 1½ feet in girth.			
Godipara	Guma	1	1	35	1893-94	5 feet	10 years	8,999	183	8,816	3,126	17,968	169,380	600,666	16,756	The classes agree with those shown in paragraph 43.			
"	Tipu	2	14	26	"	"	"	32,241	1,551	30,690	7,043	68,311	441,120	920,678	150,567				
"	Chirang	2		13		24		18,575		16,805		41,902		381,318		1,233,937		14,335	
"	Bengtol																		
"	Bhumeswar Hill	7	36	141	"	"	"	74,815	5,556	69,269	23,666	145,625	1,020,269	2,815,724	341,069				
	Total																		

As explained in paragraph 44 the separate cost of work in plans cannot be given; figures for such operations being included up to 1891-92 with survey expenditure. Nor can the cost shown in published plans be accepted as accurate.

COMMUNICATIONS AND BUILDINGS.

50. The one "work of improvement" on a large scale belonging to the department is the Dambu-Damra road. It is 24 miles long, extending from Dambu, 1,000 feet high in the Gáro Hills, to Damra in the Goálpára district, and was constructed with the object of utilising the Gáro Hills sál forests. It has cost the department in construction and repairs between Rs. 42,000 and Rs. 43,000, which does not include sums spent on it by Messrs. Barooah & Co. and by the Public Works Department whilst in their charge. Every other division has roads or cold-weather cart tracks, inconsiderable in length singly, but aggregating a tolerable distance. They are utilised for inspection and transport, and as the trade demand progresses will need extension and improvement.

51. Buildings, for facility of inspection and with regard to the health of the inspecting agency, have been deemed a matter of very great importance since forest organisation was conceived. At the present time a forest bungalow with the necessary out-offices exists at the head-quarters of every division, except Sylhet, and there are good bungalows at Margherita, Golaghat, Bhairabighat, Kulsi, Barabadha, Jamduar, Damra, and Dambu. Inspection huts are scattered where necessary through all divisions, whilst range officers, foresters, and many other members of the subordinate staff are supplied with accommodation. The value of departmental buildings at the close of 1895-96 was Rs. 96,808, which is a very low estimate. As far back as 1873-74, Rs. 621 were spent on buildings, since which date expenditure on them and on roads has been as follows:

Period.	Cost in rupees of buildings.	Cost in rupees of roads.	Total.
1	2	3	4
1874-75 to 1878-79	24,932	5,351	30,283
1879-80 ,, 1883-84	56,608	19,270	75,878
1884-85 ,, 1888-89	45,328	41,993	87,321
1889-90 ,, 1893-94	55,895	21,969	77,861
1894-95	15,141	2,880	17,721
1895-96	17,494	3,375	20,869
Total	2,15,398	94,535	3,09,933

GENERAL PROTECTION AND BREACHES OF FOREST LAW.

52. In a province like Assam, with a sparse population and the practically unlimited supply of their forest requirements free of cost, there is little inducement to

Description of forest offences.

commit forest offences, except such as are educed by the improvidence of the people, with their apathetic temperaments and half savage instincts. For exceptional requirements, the department meets them half way in supplying these in return for a minimum quantity of labour. The illicit tapping of rubber is a most remunerative occupation, and is frequently indulged in, as the risk of detection is proportionately small. As a matter of fact, the frontier tribes and hosts of nomadic-Nepalis are the principal offenders in this direction. Grazing offences are very rare, as this privilege is conceded over unclassified State forest areas, except to breeders of stock and sellers of dairy produce, almost invariably foreigners. Ordinary trespass for fishing and shooting purposes is occasional, but is usually allowed in return for work. The illicit removal of forest produce is almost invariably the result of spasmodic impulses during intervals of idleness and amusement, where leisure does not admit of the slight delay entailed in securing a permit. This same characteristic is responsible for the breaches of executive rules which occasionally occur. These remarks do not apply to the Surma Valley where conditions are different. Unfortunately, the records do not contain details showing the proportion of offences in reserved and unclassified State forests, but it is infinitesimal in the former case in comparison with the latter. Fire was a frequent source of complaint, but diminishes annually, and hostility seldom enters into the element of the occurrence. The system of control and protection in reserved forests is excellent, and has so considerably improved over unclassified State forest areas that numerous offences premeditated or arising impulsively are prevented.

Table of forest offences and results.

53. The following table exhibits offences prosecuted and the results :

Period.	Cases of				Convictions.		Acquittals.			Percentage of convictions to cases.
	Fire.	Unauthorised felling.	Unauthorised grazing.	Other offences.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases pending.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1873-74 to 1877-78 ...	12	31	...	3	32	111	14	30	...	70
1878-79 ,, 1882-83 ...	19	110	2	63	150	466	45	169	13	77
1883-84 ,, 1887-88 ...	24	301	...	120	310	794	122	316	57	72
1888-89 ,, 1892-93 ...	24	530	14	101	525	1,244	154	393	50	77
1893-94 ...	6	79	2	17	76	196	25	81	5	75
1894-95 ...	2	138	1	11	115	370	23	67	19	83
1895-96 ...	6	94	1	8	99	208	23	89	6	81
Total ...	93	1,283	20	323	1,307	3,499	406	1,145	...	...

Considering the immense difficulty that exists in producing other than circumstantial evidence in forest cases, and the natural tendency of Magistrates to view such offences as mere indiscretions, these percentages show that no unnecessary harassment is resorted to, nor are prosecutions instituted injudiciously.

54. The power of compounding forest offences was delegated to Forest-Officers in Notification No. 31, dated the 1st October 1879; this power is now limited to officers draw-

ing over Rs. 100 per mensem, and has never been used harshly. It is quite a popular institution with casual offenders, as it saves time and the technicalities of the law, and the exactions of its myrmidons. Information up to 1885 is unfortunately incomplete, but figures showing results since that date are contained in the following table :

Year.	Number of cases.	Number of persons.	Amount of compensation.	Year.	Number of cases.	Number of persons.	Amount of compensation.	Year.	Number of cases.	Number of persons.	Amount of compensation.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Rs.				Rs.				Rs.
1885-86 ...	79	122	2,308	1889-90 ...	285	335	2,347	1893-94...	642	762	3,366
1886-87 ...	50	100	1,374	1890-91 ...	219	296	1,970	1894-95...	339	502	2,473
1887-88 ...	153	181	6,309	1891-92 ...	260	415	2,293	1895-96...	311	365	1,926
1888-89 ...	390	503	3,529	1892-93 ...	370	519	2,242	...	...	...	...
Total ...	672	906	13,520	Total ...	1,134	1,565	8,852	Total ...	1,292	1,629	7,765

This gives a total for eleven years of 3,098 cases, involving 4,100 persons compounding for offences to the extent of Rs. 30,137, or an average of Rs. 7.5-4 per head.

55. The importance of fire-protection was recognised early in Assam. It was commenced in Kámrúp, Darrang, and Nowgong in 1873-74, was extended to the Khási Hills in 1874-75, to Goálpára in 1875-76, and to the Gáro Hills in 1887-88. The first areas attempted aggregated a modest 32,070 acres, which cost Rs. 922, the corresponding figures in 1895-96 are 703,573 acres, and Rs. 9,449. In the other districts of the province, the character of the flora does not

Fire-protection.

demand protection from fire. Figures on averages struck are exhibited in the following table showing results :

Period.	Area in acres		Total cost for period.	Cost per square mile for period.	Percentage of failure.	
	Attempted.	Of failures.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	*	*	Rs.	Rs.	*	* Averages for periods noted.
1873-74 to 1877-78 ...	58,700	19,097	10,303	166	32.53	
1878-79 „ 1882-83 ...	105,037	27,394	31,431	259	26.05	
1883-84 „ 1887-88 ...	157,612	11,360	45,578	199	7.22	
1888-89 „ 1892-93 ...	635,721	78,521	76,882	88	12.31	
1893-94 ...	738,120	38,016	10,991	10	5.15	
1894-95 ...	763,264	594	9,410	8	0.08	
1895-96 ...	703,573	29,395	9,449	9	4.18	

56. Fire-protection has thus cost Rs. 1,94,044, which, distributed over the present area attempted to be protected (703,573 acres), gives an average cost to Government of 4 annas 5 pies, or about Rs. 177 per square mile. Aggregating figures for the twenty-three years, the percentage of failure has been 10.72. But these figures are misleading, as, except for the last quinquennial period, no records exist showing areas burnt over more than once. The figures for that period show that, of an area aggregating 769,416 acres only 170,976 acres were actually burnt over, though totals of each year's burnings equal 226,682 acres.

57. Cattle used for dairy and agricultural purposes have always had the privilege of grazing, free of payment, over all areas beyond the limits of reserved forests. Where the latter lie contiguous to village sites, cattle are usually permitted to graze free of payment, in return for some general assistance. Grazing on payment is permitted over reserved areas, limited and kept under strict control, but there are neither restrictions in locality nor numbers in unclassified State forests and waste lands. Where professional graziers for raising of stock, sale of produce, etc., make use of either reserved or unclassified State forest areas, annual fees are realised at the rate of 8 annas a head for a buffalo, and 4 annas per head of other horned cattle, provided no fees are exacted for cattle less than a

Grazing.

year old. In a desultory and irregular manner, fees have been levied in some districts since 1875-76, but definite instructions from the Chief Commissioner do not seem to have been issued till 1888-89. These realisations are almost wholly from unclassified State forests, the agency of collection being either Forest subordinates or tahsildárs and mauzadárs under the Forest-Officer's supervision. The receipts for quinquennial periods to date are :

Period.						Amount realised.
						Rs.
1875-76	to	1879-80	...	...	...	523
1880-81	"	1884-85	...	...	...	354
1885-86	"	1889-90	...	...	...	3,871
1890-91	"	1894-95	...	...	...	32,617
1895-96	...	...	...	...	...	11,065
Total						48,430

NATURAL REPRODUCTION.

58. Natural reproduction is a conspicuous feature of all Assam forests, where climatic conditions are so favourable to the fostering of the same. All first class trees reproduce in fair, and sometimes in great, profusion, and whilst the trade demand continues in its existing condition no artificial accessories are necessary, but a substantial increase in that demand would need the attention of Forest-Officers. The spread of khair (*Acacia catechu*) and sisu (*Dalbergia sissoo*) in those forests is all that could be desired. Nahor (*Mesua ferrea*) and ajhar (*Lagerströmia flos reginæ*) reproduce in great abundance in Sibságar as does the latter in Sylhet. Grass lands everywhere grow simul (*Bombax malabaricum*) and myrabolams with numerous other trees in large numbers. Two very important trees in Upper Assam, holong (*Dipterocarpus pilosus*) and hollock (*Terminalia myriocarpa*) show unsatisfactory regeneration, which is attributed to the fruit being a favourite food of the enormous existing flocks of green parrots. Nor is regeneration good in the Desói reserve of the Sibságar district, where a saw-mill lease covers free grazing. In Cachar, reproduction is not good in the Inner Line reserve, where fellings are unrestricted, nor in two other areas, where the same conditions existed up to 1890, and the secondary growth is a dense thicket of bamboos, which effectually prevents regeneration of trees. Elsewhere reproduction is good.

59. In the case of sál the struggle for existence has been a very severe one. Indiscriminate fellings, a dense undergrowth, the action of fire and erosion, entomological pests, poverty of soil and shelter in places, the existence of climbers, and bad seed seasons, with various physical disadvantages, have been a powerful

combination, which only the hardy sál and its associates could resist. Early fellings have left open glades and exposed the soil: the undergrowth of coarse grasses in particular sterilizes the fallen seed before it can reach the ground; fire has produced heart shake, the development of shoot-buds lying latent, and a general poverty in appearance and quality when the timber is young; erosion has killed outright the sál on large areas in the vicinity of rivers; entomological pests never absolutely forsake these forests, and the consequent defoliation requires the whole recuperative forces for the reproduction of leaf, to the disadvantage of seed production; soil and want of shelter retard growth, and kill out numerous seedlings; climbers have spoilt the symmetry of many trees; bad seasons have been frequent and density of sapling growth has had ill effects. Yet the tree thrives and is expanding and encroaching visibly on all grass and mixed forest areas, for it is the most profuse seed bearer in Assam, and suppressed seedlings revive in a marvellous manner. The further removal of parent sál trees would aid, rather than retard, the abundant seedling growth. Even low lands, gradually being raised by deposits of vegetable mould, are occupied once they afford foothold for a seedling. The tree is generally a splendid seed-bearer, but during the last four years seed has been a failure. In 1892-93 the cause was climatic, intense cold and rain being constant at the season of most active and vital growth. Such seedlings as were produced suffered from floods during the following August. In February 1893, the inflorescence promised a most abundant crop, but climate again arrested development, the seed proved infructive, and not 5 per cent. even germinated. The 1893-94 crop suffered similarly, hail assisting to ruin the inflorescence. The tendency to spread is eastwards, and seed falls when the south-west winds are prevalent. Coppice growth is conspicuous by its absence, as immature trees are not felled.

60. At the same time there are areas in all districts where reproduction has not been good, owing to soil, the non-removal of overmature timber, etc. Seedlings are non-existent over large areas, owing to density of canopy and frequently of sapling crops. In almost all sál forests, the component species is of good character. The fire-protection of recent years, the application of sylvicultural principles in making fellings, and the eradication of climbers have all assisted to change the character of the undergrowth which is of so much importance to these forests. The damp climate, encouraging this luxuriant vegetation, is also, more or less, responsible for the insect pests, which are accumulated in all forest areas. As a general rule, little material damage has been done by them, but at various seasons their ravages have been extensive in all districts. The following note, which

applies particularly to Goálpára, has nevertheless a somewhat general character.

61. The arch enemy has been the *Dasychira Thwaitessii*. Mr. W. R.

Entomological pests.

Fisher noted its ravages as far back as 1878-79

and wrote a most interesting note on the same.

Though reports were almost silent on the subject subsequently, except one of 1887-88, when all Guma, with Parbatjuar, estimated at 150 square miles, succumbed to defoliation followed by a failure of seed, there is no doubt but that the pest was a permanent establishment, and only kept within bounds by the parasites living on it, which destroy their hosts wholesale. In May and June 1892 they covered 25 square miles in varied portions of the reserves, no single area exceeding two square miles, and favoured poor soils and dry localities. The subsequent rains, interfering with their metamorphosis, did not enable them to do much damage. In the succeeding year they were dominant and rampant, as were insects generally. No vegetation escaped them, and though broad-leaved trees were the special object of attack, even the linear blades of grasses and suffrescent shrubs like *Grewia sapida* received deliberate attention. Neither position, species, soil, nor description availed for protection, though certain conditions were more favoured than others. In addition to the *Dasychira Thwaitessii* affecting sál, there were the *mantis* on *Dalbergia sissoo*, the *cicada* on the grasses, and a *chrysophera* which favoured sál, *Careya arborea* and various small acacias. It was estimated that, including reserves, trees were more or less defoliated over 800 square miles. In April and May 1893, the *Antheraea Assama* appeared in the Charaidaka and Hel blocks and caused some damage to the foliage; a specimen or two of the larva having been subsequently discovered gives reason for dreading another invasion later on. At the same time, further specimens of the *Dasychira* were found and much damage has been done through the rains, especially in Guma, though it has spread throughout the reserves on a milder scale. Three different species of the *Dasychira* are probably at play from specimens of the imago found in October 1894. In 1895-96 the 25 square miles of the Guma reserve were again wholly defoliated by a *Dasychira*. The sál seeded very freely this year in all sál forests in the province, and the seedling crop was favourably reported on.

ARTIFICIAL REPRODUCTION.

62. Nothing was more strenuously urged when the Assam forests were

Artificial Reproduction.

first inspected than extensive plantations, and emphatically prominent amongst such recommendations was

one based on the necessity for cultivating the *Ficus elastica* tree, of which

such doleful accounts are given in paragraphs 16—18. Progress in this work is exhibited in the following table :

Year.	Division.	Name of plantation.	Area in acres.	Cost.	Number of trees.	Average		
						Height.	Girth.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				Rs.		Ft. in.	Ft. in.	
1873-74 ...	Kāmraṇp ...	Kulsi ...	35	378	...	...	...
1875-76 ...	" ...	" ...	65	1,118	1,292	...	...
1876-77 ...	" ...	" ...	75	209	1,280	...	...
1877-78 ...	" ...	" ...	86	749	1,579	...	...
1878-79 ...	" ...	" ...	95	870	1,959	...	...
1880-81 ...	" ...	" ...	101	2,202	1,909	...	...
1883-84 ...	" ...	" ...	122	3,628	† 1,909	* 24 0	* 2 4	* Up to 1880-81.
1884-85 ...	" ...	" ...	148	918	† 1,909	26 0	1 11	† Numbers for these years not given.
1888-89 ...	" ...	" ...	159	2,266	5,940	‡ 37 6	2 6	‡ Up to 1887-88.
1890-91 ...	" ...	" ...	160	538	5,815	47 3	3 7	
1895-96 ...	" ...	" ...	160	879	5,757	66 5	5 8	
Total ...	...	...	160	13,755	...	...	...
1873-74 ...	Darrang ...	Charduar ...	180	415	...	...	...
1875-76 ...	" ...	" ...	320	6,641	4,122	...	...
1876-77 ...	" ...	" ...	430	3,694	4,899	...	...
1877-78 ...	" ...	" ...	573	3,717	\$ 4,899	...	...	\$ Numbers for these years not given.
1878-79 ...	" ...	" ...	685	9,210	\$ 4,899	...	...
1879-82 ...	" ...	" ...	803	10,439	\$ 4,899	...	...
1882-83 ...	" ...	" ...	892	30,235	12,511	26 11	1 7	Measurements were confined to trees planted down to 1880-81.
1884-85 ...	" ...	" ...	1,012	9,464	13,831	82 11	3 2	
1885-86 ...	" ...	" ...	1,043	4,004	14,864	88 2	4 8	
1888-89 ...	" ...	" ...	1,106	10,448	16,019	51 1	6 8	
1889-90 ...	" ...	" ...	1,338	8,971	17,188	54 5	7 6	
1890-91 ...	" ...	" ...	1,763	10,099	17,119	63 10	6 5	
1892-93 ...	" ...	" ...	2,063	20,872	23,546	61 8	8 8	
1893-94 ...	" ...	" ...	2,104	7,674	28,918	66 4	9 8	
1895-96 ...	" ...	" ...	2,165	10,392	27,781	71 0	12 1	
Total ...	...	...	2,165	1,46,175	...	...	...
1874-75 ...	Darrang ...	Bamuni Hill ...	10	550	...	...	...
1876-77 ...	" ...	" ...	8	274	640	...	...
1882-83 ...	" ...	" ...	9	1,138	786	27 4	1 9	
1884-85 ...	" ...	" ...	8	60	799	24 11	2 5	
1885-86 ...	" ...	" ...	8	90	766	77 1	16 0	
Total ...	...	...	8	2,881	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	...	...	2,333	1,62,011	...	...	...

63. These are the only regular plantations in the province. The expenditure incurred previous to 1880-81 may be considered experimental, as that was the stage plantations of rubber had advanced to in that year. The Kuls; lines were utilised to advantage for the growth of other indigenous trees, but experiments made in the Charduar, though very successful at first, did not continue so, owing to density of canopy and the luxuriousness of the undergrowth. The prospects of the rubber plantations are discussed in a "Note on an inspection of certain forests in Assam" by Mr. H. C. Hill, Officiating Inspector General of Forests, of 31st March 1896.

64. Teak, owing to its floating capacity and its marketable qualities, was given precedence over all other timber trees, when plantations were commenced. The first sowings were made at Makum and elsewhere in the Debhing reserve in 1869-70, and there were extensions up to 1873-74. The Makum trees four years old were 33 feet in height, but the rest were abandoned in 1874-75, as trees presented bottle-shaped boles, branching low with leafless crowns, and two or three leading shoots, the bark and sap wood 4 feet above the ground were soft and pulpy and much attacked by white-ants, and numerous deaths were reported from a decay which passed right through the wood where it emerged from the ground. Examination showed the roots to be diseased and rotten, and deaths were not due to attacks by borer. The latter did considerable damage in subsequent years and two acres of Makum were killed outright by the close of 1878-79. The remaining two acres thrived and prospered, and need no further attention now.

Upper Assam was pronounced too damp and cold for the production of teak in 1885-86.

65. Teak was also planted at Kuls; in 1872, and, though subjected to much damage from borers, necessitating continuous replanting, has succeeded admirably, though here too there are doubts of its suitability.

Other experiments at Kuls;.

The Kuls; has been utilised for numerous experiments both of indigenous and exotic trees. The former have all been successful, but mahogany (*Swietenia Mahagoni*) proved a failure in 1884-85, the Phillipine plantain (*Musa textilis*) did not thrive, owing to the cold, whilst the Ceara rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*) grew rapidly and seeded early, but equally soon decayed, was much subject to storms, and the climate proved unsuitable. The rain tree (*Pithecolobium Saman*) and the paper mulberry (*Broussonetia papyrifera*) were successfully grown. It was found too cold for the African rubber (*Landolphia florida*) and the American species (*Castilloa elastica*). *Cinchona succirubra* also proved a failure.

66. In the Khási Hills, a cinchona plantation had been commenced in 1867 under the auspices of the Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens at Calcutta. In 1874-75 it was found that borers had attacked the trees, that the bark was diseased, and there was a generally unhealthy appearance about the trees. Samples sent to the Government quinologist for analysis showed that two of the species grown were useless, and that the *Cinchona succirubra* was very inferior to that grown near Darjeeling. Unhealthy conditions continued, in that trees flowered sparingly and were not forming good seed pods, and in 1880-81 the experiment was pronounced a failure, except in so far that it had been conclusively proved that it would grow at an elevation of from 2,000 to 4,000 feet, so the area was struck out of the records and no further experiment attempted, as Darjeeling could produce so much better results.

67. The seeds of a large number of European and Australian trees were sown near Shillong in 1871-72. None of the former germinated, and only a few of the latter (acacias). Only three species grew at all successfully, frost killing out others, whilst rats were reported to have caused many casualties. The planting of conifers was commenced in 1876-77. All plantations really ceased to exist in 1884-85 though nurseries were maintained for the filling up of blanks in forest areas. A garden of European fruits was purchased in 1872-73 on the recommendation of the Commissioner for Rs. 950, but experiment after experiment failed, though hopes of success were entertained at various times. In 1880-81 fire entered the orchard and killed a large number of trees, and about this time it was recorded that its situation was too exposed to severe winds, cold weather drought, and frost, to be successful.

68. Other cultural operations were the sowing of sál in the Balipara sál forest, but results were not encouraging at the price, so nothing was done after 1879-80. On a more extensive scale, however, was the growing of nahor and ajhar in the Nambor forest, which commenced in 1878-79 and now covers 168 acres. Pigs and porcupines, in eating the nahor fruit, gave much trouble, but the experiment has been persisted in, and the result is successful. Makai (*Shorea Assamica*) was sown in Sibságar in 1888-89, but proved a failure, and experiment was abandoned. Sál sowings have been made since 1887-88 in the Dambu reserve of the Gáro Hills, but with no real success to date. The *Cinchona succirubra* was tried at Tura in 1885-86, but proved a failure.

69. The system of sowing in *Jhúms* has been attempted in all divisions, commencing in 1885-86, but cannot be considered successful in even a moderate degree, for a sparse,

timid, and suspicious population, with immense unoccupied areas at their disposal, have no incentive to cultivate allotted areas.

Cost of plantations.

70. The cost of plantations to Government has been :

Period.			Amount.	Period.			Amount.
1			2	3			4
			Rs.				Rs.
1860-70 to 1873-74	...	...	7,139	1884-85 to 1888-89	...	...	31,438
1874-75 „ 1878-79	...	...	38,969	1889-90 „ 1893-94	...	...	53,202
1879-80 „ 1883-84	...	...	66,521	1894-95	...	...	4,263
				1895-96	...	...	6,691

71. The whole sum spent is thus Rs. 2,08,223, and, deducting cost of rubber plantations from this, Rs. 46,212 have been spent on experiments and cultural operations.

CLIMBER CUTTING.

72. The necessity for the extirpation of climbers, particularly the arch enemy of the sál forests, the *Spatholobus Roxburghii*, has been discarded on since the first inspections of the Assam forests. Efforts, however, to effect this have been spasmodic, and, as maps were not retained depicting areas worked over in previous years, much useful knowledge is lost, for scarcity of labour has never permitted operations to be thorough. Work has been exclusively confined to sál-clad areas, and has extended over each district bearing such areas. As far back as 1873-74 the Doboka and Kholahat reserves were treated, as was the Balipara sál forest in 1875-76, but information is not afforded of the areas freed from the pest, nor of the cost of the operations. The following table contains details since 1876-77 :

Period.		Area worked over in acres.	Cost.	Period.		Area worked over in acres.	Cost.
1		2	3	4		5	6
			Rs.				Rs.
1876-77 to 1880-81	...	21,152	1,528	1886-87 to 1890-91	...	70,176	2,593
1891-92 „ 1895-96	...	45,980	1,997	1891-92 „ 1895-96	...	31,941	1,143

73. The whole area worked over is thus 169,249 acres, at a cost of Rs. 7,261, or Rs. 27 per square mile. Some of these areas have been worked over half a dozen times, in other cases only the largest climbers were removed, and, as in the case of fire protection, the aggregate area worked over is misleading. A portion of this work was also done by free labour.

DESCRIPTION OF DEMAND FOR TIMBER AND PRODUCE.

74. The demand for timber falls more or less under the following heads:

- (1) Tea garden requirements.
- (2) Public Works Department requirements.
- (3) Railway requirements.
- (4) Foreign trade requirements.
- (5) Local trade requirements.

75. With regard to (1), such large areas of forest-clad land have been leased to tea gardens, of which, in most cases, the larger proportion has not been brought under cultivation*, that timber for buildings, accessories, firewood, charcoal, etc., bring no revenue to the department, except that first realised under special conditions, and at rates much below those fixed as royalty for individual trees. In many cases gardens saw up their own tea boxes, and in others saw-mills have been established for the purpose, which work under concessions from the department. Still a demand does exist for the articles enumerated, and extended cultivation should naturally tend to increase this.

76. (2) The Public Works Department afford little or no financial assistance, as special concessions are made them by the Local Administration on both sides of all roads. Much of the timber, too, formerly used, is replaced by rolled iron, corrugated iron, etc., in buildings and bridges, whilst teak is more suitable for house fittings than any Assam timbers.

77. (3) Similarly, railway demands are at a minimum, as their specifications, difficulties in transport, and expensiveness of labour locally, enable them to procure cheaper material from and through Calcutta, clean sawn by machinery.

78. (4) The foreign trade is that on which the province chiefly relies for its forest revenue. The export is in the form of timber in the rough, chiefly sál, required for large works of a permanent character; sál or other "dhums;" logs from 6 to 7 feet in length used in the boat trade; canoes of all better descriptions of timber; dead-wood and drift wood, generally in the form of poles for buildings of

* At close of 1896 out of 994, 501 acres held by Planters, 276,014 acres only were under cultivation.

respectable natives; minor produce, such as thatching-grass, canes, reeds bamboos, etc., for the same purpose; and such products as rubber, lac, agar, ivory, etc.

79. (5) Local requirements are infinitesimally small, as all settlement-holders get practically all forest necessities free of payment, so that local trade is really confined to the few stations of any importance in the province.

Local demands.

HISTORY OF THE TIMBER TRADE.

80. Much of the history of the timber trade is incorporated in the paragraphs under the head of "Organisation and Rules." In earlier years all efforts were concentrated on the development of departmental operations, but these were generally unsuccessful owing to labour and transport difficulties and market vagaries. They occupied also a disproportionate amount of the time and energies of the establishment, to recoup, even when successful, the neglect necessarily falling to the share of other important work. It was soon discovered that "purchasers" operations paid the department best, both in incidence of value per cubic foot and in control and supervision. Facilities for this purpose were consequently introduced in the constructions of timber tracks, the establishment of depôts and the institution of permits, passes, and a system of marking and registration. The depressed condition of the trade in 1879-80 induced the relaxation of the system of paying all royalty in full in advance, substituting for it half payments in advance, and realisation of the balance when the timber was sold. In 1885-86 similar depression induced another concession, and quarter royalty was accepted in advance, if 20 or more trees were covered by a permit. As noted in the preceding paragraph, the foreign trade is that depended upon for forest revenue, and this is largely confined to the Eastern Bengal districts, which are much influenced in their trade demands by agricultural depression or prosperity, the timber market being buoyant and inflated or abnormally depressed according to the circumstances prevailing.

81. The earliest opportunity was taken for commencing departmental operations, but the results from 1870-71 to 1872-73 were a loss of Rs. 2,839, the expenditure being Rs. 5,772, and receipts Rs. 2,933. This was due to the working out of first class timber from Lakhimpur and Sibságar. In 1872-73, 50 sál logs were worked out of the Kámrúp forests at a cost of 6 annas 4 pies per cubic foot, realising 15 annas 2 pies per cubic foot, but the contractor employed failed to bring out 100 other trees contracted for; 61 of these latter were extracted in 1873-74 at a cost of 2 annas 11 pies per cubic foot, and realised 9 annas 9 pies per cubic foot; but depôt charges were not included, nor expenses for

Departmental operations.

supervision, nor were subsequent losses accounted for. In this same year 201 sál trees were worked out for the Public Works Department at a cost of 3 annas 6 pies per cubic foot, and realised 13 annas 3 pies. The following table gives the receipts and expenditure under this head since 1874-75 :

Period.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Period.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1874-75 to 1878-79 ...	55,436	27,194	1889-90 to 1893-94 ...	50,395	30,920
1879-80 „ 1883-84 ...	66,609	25,705	1894-95 ...	15,162	4,026
1884-85 „ 1888-89 ...	7,388	11,420	1895-96 ...	6,801	9,663
Total ...	1,29,433	64,319	Total ...	72,358	44,609

82. Receipts thus aggregated Rs. 2,01,791, and expenditure Rs. 1,08,928, leaving a surplus of Rs. 92,863, to which must be added the value of stock, Rs. 44,653, making a total of Rs. 1,37,516. Satisfactory as these figures are, they are subject to comment. The expenditure has frequently included small sums spent on timber used for departmental purposes, but on the other hand allows no margin for a large proportion of the establishment employed, for cost and feed of cattle, deterioration, stores, etc. The Goálpara figures for the last seven years, however, which make due allowance for contingencies, show that departmental work realises about 50 per cent. more revenue per cubic foot than is obtained by selling standing trees. But if the question of capital interest on money expended, and the loss to other work entailed by supervision of this are taken into the calculation, the margin of profit would be considerably reduced. At the close of 1882-83, the result of five years' workings was given as follows :

“No felled trees remained in the forests on the 1st of April 1874; the number of trees felled from 1874-75 to 1878-79 was 5,983, and the number of trees remaining in the forest on the 1st of April 1879 was 333.

“This shows that about 5,640 trees were felled for the equivalent 105,793 cubic feet of timber, and these trees, at the rates fixed for the time being by the Chief Commissioner, represent a value of Rs. 41,033. If to this,*

* This expenditure is shown annually in Form No. 57 under the head of timber worked by Government agency which includes half cost of live and dead stock, and the value of the latter has, under the circumstances, to be added to the value of timber to show result.

Rs. 61,838 are added, we have the total amount of capital, *viz.*, Rs. 1,02,871, which, on an average, is employed for about two years, making the interest 1.22 per cent. per annum.

"This plainly shows that such operations are not sufficiently remunerative and only justifiable on the ground of either stimulating the trade in timber or of husbanding the timber required from the forests."

At the close of 1883-84, the following was recorded :

"The actual results of the timber works by direct departmental agency carried on during the last five years are now finally shown below :

	Rs.
Value of timber sold from 1879-80 to 1883-84 ...	84,472
Half value of live and dead stock at close of 1881-82 ...	35,676
Expenditure on timber from 1879-80 to 1883-84 ...	56,984*

"Deducting the amount shown in the third line from the total of the first two lines, leaves the net value of the departmental timber work during the last five years, which is Rs. 63,164, in favour of these operations on the total quantity of timber disposed of amounting to 109,232 cubic feet.

"The number of trees felled during these five years was 1,504, which, at the rate of royalty fixed for the time being by the Chief Commissioner, represent a value of Rs 12,400. This, together with the above Rs. 56,984 expended on this timber, gives a total amount of capital of Rs. 69,384, against the total receipt of Rs. 1,20,148, as shown in the first and second lines of the above statement."

These figures again must be received with caution, as the sale of standing trees and drift timber collections were included.

83. Where departmental operations were undertaken after 1873-74, they were at first almost exclusively the result of indents. As Dhubri possessed special facilities for the supply of the Bengal market, it was created a provincial depôt in 1877-78, where the surplus supply of other divisions, as well as the Goálpára yield, were stacked for sale. But this only continued to 1881-82, as the market demand for timber other than *sál* was erratic, labour in the upper districts was scant, and that imported proved a failure, whilst the foreign boat men employed in the export trade hesitated leaving the Brahmaputra for tributary rivers for floating purposes. During and from this year little or no work was done, except the transport of existing stock to depôts, till the contractors in the Dambu reserve of the Gáro Hills failed in 1886-87, when the department undertook the work, pending arrangements being concluded with other contractors, and this was carried on in a desultory manner, even after their advent, as they would not purchase stock in hand except at a sacrifice, and not always at that. Work was resumed in the Goálpára division

* See foot-note on preceding page.

in 1889-90, the result of the Inspector General of Forests' visit, when timber was in great demand and prices exceeded the average. This work has continued to date, and will continue, partly to meet silvicultural requirements and working plans prescriptions and partly to be prepared for a market where surprises are of frequent occurrence. The Gáro Hills attempted working on a system of dividing profits with the contractor in 1892-93, but this naturally failed. Cachar has collected drift timber for four or five years and with financial success. Sibságar supplied firewood from 1891 to 1893 and then ceased operations, as they were not satisfactory. From the silvicultural point of view departmental operations are best, but there are numerous adverse associated conditions.

84. Sale values of sál are always affected by the condition of old stock, that finally disposed of in 1894-95 in Goálpára only producing 6 annas per cubic foot. The fact that work stretches over two seasons; that the timber is roughly handled in both elephant dragging and floating distances of about 50 miles; that it is exposed to wind, rain, and sun in dépôts for indefinite periods, causing irregular rotting of sapwood and the numberless seams, the results of the escape of the imprisoned water; competition of local timber workers; combination of touts at sale dépôts, and the absolute impossibility of gauging the market, present or prospective; all militate against the extension of departmental working. The trade itself is further hampered by the fact that labour is from 50 to 100 per cent. higher than it was ten years ago, that there is no change in the primitive mode of extraction or floating, that the fall in the selling rates is not less than 20 per cent., and that there is no local demand for tea gardens, or railway requirements. For the latter one might be originated by offering inducements to contractors, but such inducements would necessitate accepting Rs. 4 or less per tree, instead of an average of Rs. 10. For the department to undertake railway supplies would, under existing circumstances, without doubt end in financial loss.

85. No revenue was collected in Sibságar up to 1867-68, except from the lease of an elephant *mahál* in one year, nor in Lakhimpur till 1863-64, and up to 1867-68 only Rs. 20 were realised from timber. The following were the collections of the Assam division up to 1868-69 :

					Rs.
Caoutchouc leases	...	...	...	...	59,097
Elephant <i>mahál</i> leases	...	...	...	...	6,900
Timber fees	...	...	...	...	32,664
Other forest-produce	...	...	...	...	525
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>99,186</u>

86. Subsequent to this revenue from elephant leases was credited to Land Revenue, and that derived from the use of Sûm forests had always been so credited, realising Rs. 30,720 in 1869-70 and Rs. 25,736 in 1871-72, but small collections under both heads were apparently made down to 1876-77.

87. During the next five years of the existence of the old Assam division the revenue realised amounted to Rs. 1,22,750, almost the whole of which was collected by Civil Officers. None of these figures include collections made in the divisions forming integral portions of the Bengal proper divisions. The differentiation of classification from 1881-82 onwards renders it necessary to furnish two separate tables, that to 1880-81 being—

Year.	Timber.	Bamboos.	Grazing.	Other minor produce.	Total value.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1874-75	29,700	...	...	2,451	32,151
1875-76	23,066	...	50	22,429	45,545
1876-77	72,383	...	137	3,951	76,471
1877-78	1,08,404	292	18	8,859	1,17,573
1878-79	1,42,046	620	15	5,528	1,43,207
1879-80	1,37,779	1,223	303	5,479	1,44,784
1880-81	1,22,765	3,341	134	10,115	1,36,355
Total	6,36,143	5,476	657	58,810	7,01,086

88. Since 1881-82, sales to "purchasers" from Government forests have realised the following sums:

Period.	Timber.	Minor forest produce.	Rubber.	Agar and lac.	Other minor produce.	Petty leases.	Ivory.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82 to 1885-86 ...	7,05,301	27,628	1,53,591	1,470	30,583	619	694	9,19,886
1886-87 to 1890-91 ...	9,61,690	81,617	1,57,437	6,135	51,573	582	653	12,59,987
1891-92 to 1895-96 ...	13,51,556	1,62,581	69,267	6,697	81,007	3,402	1,269	16,75,679
Total	30,18,547	2,71,826	3,80,295	14,202	1,63,163	4,603	2,916	38,55,552

89. Timber includes trees felled, dead wood, waif and drift wood, and in the interval covered by this latter table was extracted to the extent of 28,832,084 cubic feet. As a matter of fact these contents were exceeded, as the factor adopted for trees previous to 1889-90 was 30 cubic feet, when it was enhanced to 40, and in 1892-93 was further raised to 50 cubic feet for sál trees and 60 cubic feet for other timber trees.

Minor produce.

90. Minor produce includes :

Particulars.	Quantity.	Value.	Particulars.	Quantity.	Value.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.			Rs.
Bamboos, No. ...	30,125,721	76,265	Thatching-grass, No. of bundles	4,245,663	6,344
Grazing, No. of cattle ...	97,356	47,136	" " " " loads ...	1,313	82
Cane, No. of rafts ...	21	11	" " " " cubic ft.	17,555,452	39,386
" " " bundles ...	2,640,070	42,200	" Value of leases ...	...	23,223
" value of leases ...	...	25,723	Bil grass " " " ...	...	630
Reeds, No. of bundles ...	86,454	2,688	Fodder grass, No. of bundles ...	527	90
" " " loads ...	144	18	" " " " loads ...	28	46
" " " cubic feet ...	280,518	7,684			
" value of leases ...	...	300			
Total ...	...	2,02,025	Total ..	...	69,801

In Grazing No. of cattle in the unit is one head grazed for one year.

91. The number of cattle paying grazing fees is not recorded for seven years of the period. Cane leases are current in Lakhimpur, Sibságar, Darrang, and Goálpára. Reeds and thatching-grass are only leased in the Sylhet division. *Bil* grass (*Phrynium dichotomum*) is leased in Sibságar.

92. Home Rubber forest leases have produced Rs. 3,35,202 and sales Rs. 45,093. This subject will be treated separately.

93. Leases for *agar* (*Aquilaria Agallocha*) have been current in the Cachar, Sylhet, Darrang, and Sibságar divisions. Quantities collected and values of the same are as follows :

					Rs.
3,881 bundles ...	...	...	...	...	392
2,097 baskets ...	...	...	...	...	2,811
599 maunds ...	...	...	...	...	339
Value of leases ...	...	...	...	...	9,061
			Total	...	12,603

94. Lac propagation leases have been made in the Sibságar, Lakhimpur, Darrang, and Nowgong divisions, and have produced Rs. 1,557, sales of material realising Rs. 42.

95 "Other minor produce" includes small material, like leaves, etc., and *gurkátí*. The former has produced Rs. 4,960 and the latter Rs. 1,58,203. This source of revenue is based on a system of "commutation fees," giving a right to an indefinite quantity of forest-produce, but restricting the size and quality of timber within certain limits, and all permits issued are personal. The system is confined to the Gáo Hills district.

96. Petty leases include those of small value or such as have not been current for any number of years. Enumerating these and the revenue realised, the following figures are obtained :

	Rs.
Cassia (cinnamon) from the Khási and Jaintia Hills ...	1,260
Pipul (pepper, etc.) from Darrang ...	2,017
Fruit from the Khási Hills ...	54
Murta from Cachar ...	12
Udal (<i>Sterculia villosa</i>) from Darrang ...	25
Bankar from Sylhet ...	672
Fisheries in Lakhimpur ...	324
Stone from Sylhet ...	200
Honey from Kámúrp ...	39

97. Ivory sales realised Rs. 2,916, the proceeds of elephant tusks found in reserved forests.

98. The above figures deal only with those furnished since 1881-82, and no distinction is made between revenue derived from reserved forests and unclassified State forests, which accounts for certain entries being made which would have been credited to Land Revenue had they been produced in the latter.

99. The timber on grants allotted for special cultivation is valued under exceptional conditions, and the revenue credited to the department. Unfortunately the records do not contain figures before 1879-80. At that time, these valuations were made by Deputy Commissioners under conditions regulated by the Chief Commissioner's Circular No. 50, dated the 25th September 1879, but Chief Commissioner's Circular No. 19, dated the 25th April 1884, superseded this system and transferred the valuations to Forest-Officers, whereby Government realised a larger proportionate sum for the area alienated. The rates and conditions now in force are those appearing in Chief Commissioner's Notifications

No. 5814-R., dated the 27th December 1894. The area resigned and valuations made are to be found in the following table:

Period.							Area in acres.	Valuation of growing-stock.
1							2	3
1879-80 to 1889-94	...	...	...	...	...	...	71,723	Rs 65,908
1884-85 „ 1888-89	...	...	...	...	...	...	88,338	67,122
1889-90 „ 1893-94	...	...	...	...	...	...	66,063	1,68,306
1894-95	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,117	1,49,064
1895-96	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,940	90,183
Total							232,181	5,80,673

100. This is practically an average rate of Rs. 2-8 per acre, but, accepting that of the last two years, it only amounts to Rs 4-4 per acre. The immense benefits derived from the cultivation of timber-clad land are indisputable, and the opening out of an acre of such land is supposed to average Rs. 200 per acre, so that the timber incidence in the cost is infinitesimal and returns in its own consumption a hundredfold in a few years. In the south and west of India such lands would yield enormous sums of forest revenue. In 1879-80, there is one case on record where 4,693 acres were alienated at three pies per acre.

SYSTEM OF FELLINGS AND WORKING OF THE FORESTS.

101. The conditions under which Assam forests exist necessitate the adoption of the "jardinage" method, and the majority of fellings are the result of selections. These are prescribed in reserves where a systematic plan has been organised, and elsewhere fellings are made under elementary silvicultural rules and

the prescription of a minimum felling girth. Such fellings allow of regeneration, and, to a certain extent, include improvement fellings. Clear fellings are never carried out, except for fire traces. Excluding cuttings of climbers, improvement fellings, to encourage the growth of the better species, have only been made sporadically and on a small scale without any definite plan, as neither funds nor trade demand, nor labour supply, justify such proceedings under existing circumstances. Advantage is taken of all opportunities to meet departmental requirements from this source, and the removal of dead-wood on a large scale tends in the same direction.

102. Two methods are adopted for working Assam forests: (a) departmental operations and (b) purchasers' operations.

Departmental operations.

The first is confined to reserved forest areas or the collection of drift wood elsewhere. It is almost exclusively restricted to fellings of large timber, and stacking of the same in timber depôts, for the convenience of traders. The collection of firewood and the conversion into scantlings and railway material have been undertaken at various periods, but usually at a financial loss, whilst timber in the rough pays if the market is at all buoyant. Generally these operations are discouraged, as they occupy a disproportionate amount of supervision to the return received.

103. Purchasers' operations, in the Assam Valley, are authorized by a permit, specifying the number and name of the trees

Purchasers' operations.

to be felled, or of the produce to be collected, the locality prescribed, the value of the produce, and the length of currency of the permit. There are established rules for felling, marking, transport, and revenue collection. In Cachar, on the other hand, a permit having a currency of six months specifies neither quantity nor quality of timber, though there are some trifling restrictions, but stipulates the exaction of royalty at definite rates and at a prescribed toll station. The *gurkâti* permit issued in the Gâro Hills, as noted elsewhere, commutes for a definite sum the personal right to collect and dispose of all minor forest-produce and posts limited in size without regard to quantity or quality. More favourable terms are granted to Gâros than to foreigners. Various saw-mill agencies have special conditions in regard to fellings and royalty. Leases are given over definite tracts, under special conditions, and are usually sold at auction, for different classes of forest-produce. No timber-bearing areas are farmed.

104. The general development of communications in Assam has barely influenced the transport of forest-produce in the most minor degree, as most extractions are made.

Method of extraction.

from areas removed from cultivation and facilities. After fellings are made or produce is collected, it is taken by the shortest route to the nearest navigable stream and floated to its destination, usually somewhere on the Brahmaputra, when certain commodities are transhipped into steamers, whilst others continue their course by boat to the Eastern Bengal districts. Timber is seldom extracted by purchasers in logs of any length; but, where such work is done departmentally, or by purchasers, as in Cachar, elephants are employed in dragging to stacking stations. The saw is seldom used in fellings, and there is much waste of the material in the use of the axe. Generally marked trees are felled early in the year, the bole is cut into logs from six to seven feet in length, and these are well dressed, the only implement used being the axe. They are then rolled longitudinally along paths to river banks, where they remain till floating is possible, which is usually near the close of the rains when no danger from floods is anticipated. They are then attached in parallel lines to each side of canoes, which can usually accommodate about 16 only at a time where they first leave the forest, but the number depends on the size of the boat and the depth of the water. In the case of canoes, these are hollowed out with the axe *in situ*, dressed similarly, and are charred to assist stretching and opening out. Rollers of green saplings are then laid along the regular paths, over which the boat is slid to the water.

105. Canoes and all descriptions of timber are almost invariably transported by boat to their ultimate destination, as are bamboos, cane, reeds, thatching-grass; but rubber, lac, and other produce are usually conveyed by steamer, as these are destined for Calcutta.

106. The most valuable economic product in the province is rubber, the produce of *Ficus elastica*. It is extracted in two forms: incisions are made in the bark of the tree, and the expressed juice is allowed either to coagulate and dry on the tree; or it is received into cups made of leaves, etc., and collected in a liquid form. It is sold in the crude state to Kyahs, or Marwari merchants, who consign it in that form to Calcutta. The trade is as ancient as the Administration. Government realisations from leases to 1868-69 were Rs. 59,097. An import duty was suggested as early as 1871-72 and frequently repeated, but was not carried into effect till the 1st October 1892. The object was to prevent or mitigate to some extent the illegal tapping of Government trees, and declaring the product to be imported from beyond the frontier. Figures, too, at various periods gave grounds for belief that rubber from Upper Burma found its way into the province to escape the duty leviable in Burma. The quantity of rubber exported from Assam from 1870-73 was reported to be 51,500 maunds, excluding the Surma Valley, into which was imported from 1870-75, no less than 17,245 maunds. In 1871-72, leases realised the

Rubber.

following sums: Nāga Hills Rs. 1,050, Darrang Rs. 14,219, Nowgong Rs. 168, and Lakhimpur Rs. 4,000. The Jaintia Hills lease produced Rs. 950 in 1874-75, but was not renewed, on account of low offers, till 1879, when two years' currency was given for Rs. 535 per annum. The imports, exports, and value of *mahāls* from 1876-77 are given in the following table :

Period.					Imports in maunds.	Exports in maunds.	Revenue realised on leases, etc.
							Rs.
1876-77 to 1880-81	...	...	...	...	13,934	44,871	.....
1881-82 „ 1885-86	...	...	...	...	10,853	45,286	1,57,026
1886-87 „ 1890-91	...	...	...	...	7,193	29,501	1,56,533
1891-92 „ 1895-96	...	...	...	...	12,395	17,362	2,00,731
Total					44,375	137,020	5,14,290

107. The recorded imports and exports, usually furnished by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, are not very reliable; the former are frequently affected by frontier complications. The market price of rubber is generally high, but fell in 1884-85 and it was not found possible to sell some of the *mahāls* that year, and vagaries of this description interfered with the lease of others at different periods. In 1890-91 an offer of Rs. 20,000 per annum for five years' lease of the Lakhimpur forests was declined. All important leases fell in 1891-92. In 1892-93, by Notification No. 5737-R., dated the 1st November 1892, rules were promulgated regulating the collection and removal of India-rubber, being the produce of trees on land at the disposal of Government not included in a reserved or village forest. In Notification No. 4931-R., dated the 24th September 1892, a duty of Rs. 12 per maund was imposed from 1st October 1892 on all rubber imported into the territories administered by the Chief Commissioner from any place beyond those territories. Notification No. 5738-R., dated the 1st November 1892, and a number of subsequent amendments fixed authorised routes for transport of rubber and revenue stations where duty was to be realised. Thus the revenue figures shown in the above table are realisations from leases to the close of 1891-92 with petty additions from departmental collections, but from the following year represent duty paid under the above quoted rules, which give the following results to the close of 1895-96 :

				Mds.	Rs.
Home rubber	...	...	...	3,560	45,593
Foreign „	...	...	...	10,719	1,29,554

108. Experiments made departmentally over six years in 1882-83 to 1887-88 on an average number of fifty trees out of fifty-six originally chosen in

Darrang reserves gave a yield of 18 maunds 7 seers, which cost Government Rs. 622 to collect and realised by sale Rs. 1,211. Further experiments in January 1896 gave a yield of $6\frac{1}{2}$ seers from 4 trees in the Balipara plantations, the trees being from 18 to 20 years old; the rubber was valued locally at Rs. 97 per maund.

109. Tappings of trees in the Charduar plantations with the object of killing out suppressed or inferior trees have produced 58 maunds of rubber, which realised Rs. 2,130, the work being partly done departmentally and partly by purchasers.

110. No record was kept of any free grants made previous to 1882-83.

Free grants. They are necessarily the roughest of estimates, though much pains have been taken in recent years

to improve their value. They are issued chiefly by virtue of Local Government concessions and partly by executive orders in return for work. In the first case quantities are allotted by the Local Government from unclassified State forests only, without payment, which may be increased for reasons given. In the earlier days mauzadárs entered the full quantity sanctioned on all permits issued, whether required or not, or extracted or not. It is only of recent years that attempts at accuracy have been made, for, when first mooted, villagers naturally thought they would forfeit balances by not taking permission to remove full quantities sanctioned at once.

111. But previously to 1895-96 these estimates did not include drift wood and thatching-grass consumed in stations, firewood collected by prisoners, nor grazing of cattle of settlement-holders. Nor even yet is any allowance made for the consumption of forest-produce by traders working in the forests, by rubber and other collectors passing into foreign territory, coolies employed during the cold-weather by various Government agencies, the collection of burnt reeds for firewood by villagers, nor by the Public Works Department; waste is the *sine quâ non* of a situation where no payments are made. Up to the close of 1885 the figures of the annexed table deal only with timber, and, except canes and thatching-grass, they include no other minor produce till 1886-87. Bearing all these facts in mind, it would not be unreasonable to accept the figures of 1895-96 as a moderately average estimate of free grants made by the State since the province was isolated from Bengal, and as these are estimated at Rs. 6,49,518, the figures for the 22 years would amount to Rs. 1,42,89,396. Even then, the figures are faulty, for waste land grant timber valuations are infinitesimally small in comparison with the royalty value of the timber, some estates being alienated in earlier years at a few annas per acre, when the timber standing on the same was worth Rs. 1,000. These remarks only profess to express the merely narrow departmental point of view in support of figures furnished.

112. The following table supplies such information regarding "free grants" as is found recorded :

Particulars.	Period.	Quantity.	Value.	Period.	Quantity.	Value.	Period.	Quantity.	Value.	Total Value.
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.	
Timber ...	C. ft. 1882-83 to 1896-87	2,504,331	2,64,858	1887-88 to 1891-92	13,656,815	5,30,861	1892-93 to 1895-96	18,076,399	5,46,217	13,41,836
Bamboos ...	" "	...	...	" "	9,118,703	44,604	" "	9,301,153	28,990	73,084
Canes ...	" "	56,445	1,662	" "	422,462	9,316	" "	214,509	8,741	19,719
Thatching-grass ...	" "	326	10	" "	1,798,078	4,403	" "	16,913,175	67,943	77,299
" "	" "	131,688	520	" "	939,607	4,217	" "	47,900	116	
Reeds ...	" "	24,513	764	" "	600	11	" "	100	3	21,596
" "	" "	...	...	" "	170,120	5,816	" "	572,221	15,502	
Pathi ...	" "	11,780	7	" "	123,176	86	" "	184,495	118	211
Gurkhati (foreign) ...	" "	50	100	" "	111	232	" "	98	198	518
Other minor produce ...	" "	...	...	" "	240	7	" "	4,800	2	9
Grazing ...	" "	...	...	" "	...	...	" "	912,437	2,64,205	2,64,205
Fodder ...	" "	...	...	" "	...	...	" "	3,919	245	245
Total ...	.....	...	2,67,921	.....	...	5,89,223	.....	...	9,32,378	17,99,422

RIGHT-HOLDERS AND SHARED FORESTS.

113. The only right-holders recognised are the Lukhipur zemindárs, who are entitled to *gurkálí* permits free, for their own use, from the A *mahál* forests in the Gáro Hills. Right-holders. During the last ten years 259 such permits have been granted, valued at Rs. 518, which sum is included in the table of free grants.

114. Government manages certain Khási Hills forests, belonging to private owners, and, whilst incurring all expenditure on the same, takes half of the gross collections, which amounted to Rs. 48,549 from 1880-81 to 1893-94. During the last two years, such collections have been appropriated under budget head II, and it is impossible to give them separately. Khási Hills private forests.

115. In the Gáro Hills, there are two *maháls*, "A" "B," in which the Lakhipur zemindárs of the Goálpára district are acknowledged as proprietors. The first *mahál* is managed by Government, who undertake all expenditure and adhere to 25 per cent. of the revenue collected. In B *mahál*, management is by the zemindárs themselves, but they are mulcted in 15 per cent. of the revenue collections, which is credited to Government. From 1880-81 to 1893-94, these collections have realised Rs. 23,310 as the Government share; but as in the above case and for the same reason, figures for the last two years are not given. Gáro Hills *maháls*.

116. From 1877-78 to 1882-83, duty was levied on private forest-produce exported from Cachar, and realised Rs. 4,668. Cachar private forests.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF FOREST-PRODUCE.

117. Information regarding imports of forest-produce is fragmentary and not reliable, except in so far as revenue is realised on such by Forest-Officers, and this is only the case during the last six years, for which the following figures are furnished : Imports.

Number of boats	...	...	...	...	4,189
" " logs and pieces	...	...	...	...	110,383
" " bamboos	...	...	...	...	27,390,863
" " bundles of cane	...	...	...	...	325,108
" " cubic feet of thatching-grass	...	...	...	...	4,125,540
" " bundles of reeds...	...	...	...	...	1,435
" " dals of <i>pathi</i> (<i>Licuala peltata</i>)	...	...	...	...	36,877
" " maunds of rubber	...	...	...	...	14,109
" " baskets of agar	...	...	...	...	940

118. Imports from Bhutan were as follows :

Description.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Logs	168	80	29	...	363	1,043	363	67	...	...	299	136	422	...
Dugouts	230	146	30	63	303	684	303	222	315	497	289	208	107	243

119. Exports are recorded for the Brahmaputra Valley at Dhubri, and for the Surma Valley at Bhairab Bazar. Figures for the former are :

Brahmaputra Valley exports.

Year.	Boats.		Logs.		Posts and pieces.		Bamboos.		Canes.		Reeds.		Thatching-grass.	
	Government.	Private.	Government.	Private.	Government.	Private.	Government.	Private.	Government.	Private.	Government.	Private.		
1881-82	3,800	...	215,911	...	29,912	800	6,422,300	647,800
1882-83	2,100	...	394,850	100	108,342	515	7,370,000	3,150,300
1883-84	225,570	39,590	30,678	2,706	922,222	121,244
1884-85	88,379	7,200	28,350	800	311,511	24,666
1885-86	327,424	19,035	75,676	9,300	613,011	173,583
1886-87	273,779	65,870	32,080	2,800	816,368	488,088
1887-88	229,835	49,600	43,416	20,923	1,012,551	701,101
1888-89	193,607	63,810	44,337	13,995	725,181	751,943
1889-90	370,331	58,412	29,250	17,524	1,009,206	759,550
1890-91	683,939	66,567	32,632	24,083	2,514,894	1,089,670
1891-92	325,465	27,900	43,376	14,017	1,733,412	936,278
1892-93	783,489	25,625	36,063	20,005	1,081,198	572,660
1893-94	734,836	103,100	36,375	39,220	797,200	632,399
1894-95	587,708	22,333	37,152	33,920	1,270,925	1,005,720
1895-96	863,285	31,600	38,166	25,297	1,896,500	680,333
Total	6,327,888	652,012	655,850	217,505	28,406,750	11,730,411

120. The private forests are permanently-settled estates. The royalty received from the above at the traffic station amounted to Rs. 46,872, whilst registration fees amount to Rs. 4,347. The collection of statistics, registration fees and royalty were first authorised in Notification No. 20, dated the 10th August 1880, but there have been various modifications since. Bamboos and canes only paid duty since 1883-84, duty being declared leviable in Notification No. 18, dated the 13th April 1883, and reeds and thatching-grass were included by issue of Notification No. 6, dated the 25th January 1887. The traffic stations at Fakirganj and Dhubri, so far as forest traffic is concerned, are controlled by the Forest-Officer.

121. The following exports were registered at Bhairab Bazar on the Megna, for which the department has no responsibility:
 Surma Valley exports.

Period.	No. of pieces of timber.	No. of maunds of caoutchouc.	No. of bamboos.	No. of maunds of canes.	No. of maunds of other minor produce.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1882-83 to 1886-87	7,480	4,339	3,161,500	8,013	...
1887-88 ,, 1891-92	25,254	759	4,966,430	50,279	464,592
1892-93 ,, 1896-96	9,538	217	29,132,291	35,582	...
Total	42,272	5,315	37,260,221	93,874	464,592

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

122. The revenue collected in the province since its constitution as a Chief Commissionership is given in the following table:

Period.	Budget heads.					Total.
	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1874-75 to 1878-79	57,195	4,18,360	1,588	32,948	39,633	5,49,724
1879-80 ,, 1883-84	73,908	8,26,960	11,643	38,212	8,713	9,59,436
1884-85 ,, 1888-89	9,983	10,18,699	9,263	48,304	74,025	11,60,274
1889-90 ,, 1893-94	53,315	15,86,415	29,324	1,32,189	2,10,607	20,11,850
1894-95	15,162	3,48,357	8,014	30,977	42,196	4,44,706
1895-96	7,552	3,10,547	5,788	32,887	47,708	4,04,482
Total	2,17,115	45,09,338	65,620	3,15,517	4,22,882	55,30,472

123. The expenditure during the same period has
Charges for work. been :

A.—Conservancy and works :

Period.	Budget heads.									Total.
	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1874-75 to 1878-79 ...	30,301	7,621	31	...	250	63,754	30,682	81,744	3,176	2,17,559
1879-80 „ 1883-84 ...	28,852	11,129	527	...	50	76,403	76,654	1,88,078	9,609	3,91,302
1884-85 „ 1888-89 ...	12,310	36,877	460	...	...	63,068	88,075	1,91,109	21,501	4,14,000
1889-90 „ 1893-94 ...	36,357	79,805	1,214	4,580	4,802	88,756	50,354	3,32,503	18,025	6,16,486
1894-95 ...	4,030	22,587	152	...	18,961	12,613	18,610	33,558	1,903	1,12,414
1895-96 ...	9,690	27,098	154	...	12,592	11,179	21,971	31,350	1,947	1,15,979
Total ...	1,21,540	1,85,115	2,568	4,580	36,715	3,15,773	3,16,946	8,58,342	56,161	18,97,740

Charges for establishment.

124. B.—Establishment :

Period.	Budget heads.			Total.
	I.	II.	III.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1874-75 to 1878-79 ...	1,83,685	26,473	7,680	2,17,838
1879-80 „ 1883-84 ...	3,43,628	55,061	16,774	4,15,463
1884-85 „ 1888-89 ...	5,10,556	99,597	23,030	6,33,183
1889-90 „ 1893-94 ...	6,08,093	1,04,442	32,191	7,44,726
1894-95 ...	1,39,603	21,559	8,076	1,69,238
1895-96 ...	1,42,035	22,999	8,310	1,73,344
Total ...	19,27,600	3,30,151	96,061	23,53,812

125. The net profit made by the Department is thus Rs. 12,78,920.

Accepting the present area of reserved and unclassified State forests as in round figures, 15,373 square miles, the return would be to the State Rs. 83-3-1 per square mile or 2 annas 1 pie per acre. Like most other figures, however, these are misleading, as

Results.

immense areas are unproductive, and equally great ones are in the same condition for want of transport facilities, and it would be folly to indulge in elaborate schemes for the latter till market requirements press the necessity for the same on the department. If to the surplus the value of free grants for the same period is added, it increases it to Rs. 1,55,68,316 or almost Rs. 1,013 per square mile.

AREA OF RESERVED FORESTS IN ASSAM.

126. Reserved areas were first gazetted under Rule 7 of Part II of the Bengal Forest Rules of 1871, and section 2 of Act VII of 1865.

After Notification of the Assam Forest Rules of 1876, dated the 16th September 1876, the reserves were gazetted under Rule 8 of those Rules and section 2 of Act VII of 1865.

The Indian Forest Act, VII of 1878, came into force on the 8th March 1878, and all reserves existing at that time were re-notified under section 34, areas subsequently taken up being gazetted under section 19.

The Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891, came into force on the 1st April 1892 (Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 612R., dated the 23rd February 1892); since that date reserves are gazetted under section 17 of the Regulation. Under section 2, Chapter I of the Regulation, "all acts done, proceedings had, appointments made, powers conferred, rules prescribed and Notifications published under the Indian Forest Act, 1878, or under any other law relating to matters for which this Regulation provides, shall, so far as they are not inconsistent with this Regulation, be deemed to have been respectively done, had, made, conferred, prescribed and published, under this Regulation." Thus, it was not necessary to re-notify reserves gazetted before the promulgation of the Regulation.

Forest Department, Assam.—Area of Reserved Forests on 1st July 1896.

Division.	Bouge.	Civil district or territory.	Name of forest.	Area.		No. and date of Notification in the Assam Gazette.	Original Notifications.
				Acrea.	Equivalent in square miles.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cachar ...	Sonai ...	Cachar district.	Upper Jiri...	15,360	24	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	Assam Gazette, Notification dated the 15th March 1877, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	"	Ditto ...	Lower " ...	9,002	14	Ditto ditto ... No. 8, dated the 14th March 1884, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto ...	"			No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto ...	Barak ...	47,830	75	No. 2737R, dated the 18th August 1890, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto "	"			No. 633R, dated the 24th February 1892, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto "	Sonai ...	5,440	8	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Lushai territory.	Inner Line...	325,760	509	No. 1849R, dated the 19th May 1896, section 28 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
	" and Matijuri.	Cachar district.	Katakhal ...	51,200	80	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	
	Matijuri ...		Total ...	454,592	170	Ditto ditto ...	

Forest Department, Assam.—Area of Reserved Forests on 1st July 1896—continued.

Division.	Range.	Civil district or territory	Name of forest.	Area.		No. and date of Notification in the Assam Gazette.	Original Notifications.	
				Acres.	Equivalent in square miles.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Sylhet "	Patharkandi	Sylhet District.	Lengai and Singla.	108,800	710	No. 57, dated the 17th September 1896, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.		
	Guma "	Goalpara district.	Guma "	16,786	26	No. 7607R., dated the 22nd September 1893, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.		
Goalpara	Western "	Ditto "	Ripu "	150,587	235	Ditto ditto "		
						No. 932R., dated the 3rd March 1894, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.		
						No. 7607R., dated the 22nd September 1893, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.		
	Eastern "	Ditto "	Chirang "	148,261	232	No. 962R., dated the 3rd March 1894, section 1 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.		
<i>Forest Reserves as originally gazetted in Goalpara division.</i>								
				Name of reserve.	Area in acres.	Area (in Acres) added each year	Notification.	Remarks.
				Bijni "	8,033	"	No. 46, dated the 17th November 1878.	Were gazetted under section 2 of Act VII of 1865 and regazetted under provisions of section 34 of Act VII of 1878 in Notification No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878.
				Chirang No. I	69,205	"	Ditto ditto "	Ditto ditto.
				ditto No. II	88,098	"	Ditto ditto "	Ditto ditto.
				Ripu "	41,685	"	Ditto ditto "	Ditto ditto.
				Guma "	15,779	222,740	Ditto ditto "	Ditto ditto.

[illegible]

• Areas rectified by Forest Survey Department,

Forest Department, Assam.—Area of Reserved Forests on 1st July 1896—continued.

Division.	Range.	Civil district or territory.	Name of forest	Area.		No. and date of Notification in the <i>Assam Gazette</i> .	Original Notifications.
				Acres	Equivalent in square miles.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Kulsi	Kámrúp district.	Barduar	16,143	35	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1873, section 34 of Act VII of 1878. No. 12, dated the 13th July 1882, section 19 of Act VII of 1878. No. 8942R., dated the 2nd December 1893, section 17, Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	<i>Calcutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 8th August 1872, section 2 of Act VII of 1865. <i>Assam Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 5th December 1874, section 2 of Act VII of 1865. <i>Assam Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 10th April 1875, section 3 of Act VII of 1865.
	"	Ditto	Pantan	21,910	34	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878. No. 12, dated the 7th March 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	<i>Calcutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 12th August 1873, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	"	Ditto	Kulsi plantation.	3,988	6	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878. No. 12, dated the 13th July 1882, section 19 of Act VII of 1878. No. 8928R., dated the 1st December 1893, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	<i>Calcutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 13th August 1873, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.

Assam Gazette, Notification dated the 5th December 1874.

"	"	Ditto	Millullia ...	4,514	7	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1873, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.
						No. 12, dated the 7th March 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
						No. 1231E., dated the 22nd March 1894, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.
"	"	Ditto	Mayang Hill	4,800	8	No. 12, dated the 13th March 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	Chhaygon	2,705	4	No. 25, dated the 25th September 1885, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
Rani	"	Ditto	Mataikhar	2,240	4	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	Jara ...	1,037	2	Ditto ditto ...
"	"	Ditto	Rani ...	11,035	17	No. 13, dated the 28th July 1882, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	Kawasing Hill.	3,570	6	No. 12, dated the 7th March 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
Singra	"	Ditto	Simla Hill	317	1	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Dumpara Hill.	497	1	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Khaksi Si-krabura Hill.	2,530	4	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Ghoraputa	120	"	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Khatkhathi Hill.	644	1	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Tarabari Hill	806	1	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Garnbaldha Hill.	240	"	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Kuarkhuri...	149	"	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	Sursuria Hill.	970	2	Ditto ditto.

Calcutta Gazette, Notification dated the 25th October 1872, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.

Assam Gazette, Notification dated the 5th December 1874.

Forest Department, Assam.—Area of Reserved Forests on 1st July 1896—continued.

Division.	Range.	Civil district or territory.	Name of forest	Area.		Number and date of Notification in the <i>Assam Gazette</i> .	Original Notifications.
				Acres.	Equivalent in square miles.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kámrúp (<i>concd.</i>).	Singra	Kámrúp district.	Gizang	4,770	7	No. 12, dated the 7th March 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878. No. 1570-R, dated the 16th April 1894, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
	"	Ditto	Jaipur	824	1	No. 12, dated the 7th March 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878. No. 1570-R, dated the 16th April 1894, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
	"	Ditto	Baradobha	1,190	2	No. 12, dated the 7th March 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto	Nampathar	640	1	Ditto ditto.	
	"	Ditto	Barjuli	1,120	2	Ditto ditto.	
	"	Ditto	Mugakhal	284	"	No. 1192R, dated the 19th March 1884, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
	North-Eastern	Ditto	Jharikhuri	1,978	3	No. 138, dated the 26th August 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
		Ditto	Hejo	243	"	No. 4892R, dated the 13th November 1895, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
	"	Ditto	Darranga	5,440	9		
			Total	94,704	148		

Caleutta Gazette, Notification dated the 28th January 1874, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.

Darrang...	Western ...	Darrang district.	Khalingduar	17,372	27	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	<i>Caleutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 28th January 1874, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	Central ...	Ditto	Balipara ...	56,224	88	No. 28, dated the 10th September 1879, section 19 of Act VII of 1878. No. 141R, dated the 17th January 1885, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1881. No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	Ditto.
	"	Ditto	Charduar ...	66,983	105	Ditto ditto ... No. 14, dated the 19th June 1884, section 19 of Act VII of 1878. No. 27, dated the 19th July 1888, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	Assam Gazette, Notification dated the 28th January 1876, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	"	Ditto	Bhamaraguri Hill.	386	...	No. 34, dated the 20th August 1888, section 28 of Act VII of 1878.	Assam Gazette, Notification dated the 31st July 1875, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
Nowgong	"	Ditto	Gorumari ...	205	...	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	" " " 11th December 1875, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	"	Ditto	Singri Hill ...	1,200	2	No. 5, dated the 1st February 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	Assam Gazette, Notification dated the 31st August 1876, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	Eastern ...	Ditto	Nowduar ...	52,450	82	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	<i>Caleutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 13th March 1873, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	Western ...	Nowgong district.	Total ...	194,550	304	No. 63, dated the 25th November 1887, section 10 of Act VII of 1878.	Assam Gazette, Notification dated the 19th December 1874, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
Central ...	"	Ditto	Kholahat ...	16,845	26	Ditto ditto.	
	"	Ditto	Sonalkusi ...	10,754	17	No. 17, dated the 17th March 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	Central ...	Ditto	Rongkhong...	6,339	10	Ditto ditto.	

Forest Department, Assam.—Area of Reserved Forests on 1st July 1896—continued.

Division.	Range.	Civil district or territory.	Name of forest	Area. Acres.	Equiva- lent in square miles.	No. and date of Notifi- cation in the <i>Assam Gazette</i> .	Original Notifications.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Nowgong (concd.)	Central "	Nowgong dis- trict.	Doboka "	29,879	45	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	<i>Calcutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 13th March 1873, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	" "	Ditto "	Jungthung...	8,047	13	No. 65, dated the 13th December 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	" "	Ditto "	Sidharampur	4,191	7	No. 1468R., dated the 3rd May 1895, section 28 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
	" "	Ditto "	Dija "	5,742	9	No. 39, dated the 27th September 1884, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	Eastern "	Ditto "	Swang "	6,612	10	Ditto ditto.	
	" "	Ditto "	Bamuni "	449	1	No. 32, dated the 20th November 1879, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	" "	Ditto "				No. 17, dated the 17th March 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	" "	Ditto "				Ditto ditto.	
	" "	Ditto "				No. 2893R., dated the 30th July 1891, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	" "	Ditto "				No. 17, dated the 17th March 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	

		Ditto	Kotrakata Hill.	6		No. 43, dated the 23rd November 1889, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
				3,336	91,797 144	
"	"		Total			
Sibsagar	Sibsagar district.	Diroi	"	11,783	18	No. 15, dated the 18th October 1891, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	16,637	26	No. 2245R., dated the 17th May 1892, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.
"	"	Ditto	"	1,778	3	No. 15, dated the 18th October 1891, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	19,200	30	No. 2244R., dated the 17th May 1892, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.
"	"	Ditto	"			No. 19, dated the 14th September 1892, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"			No. 3392E., dated the 27th July 1894, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation VII of 1891.
"	"	Ditto	"			No. 8, dated the 27th August 1891, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
Jornhat	"	Ditto	"	4,889	8	No. 3505R., dated the 28th August 1896, section 25 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.
"	"	Ditto	"	6,912	11	No. 45, dated the 21st November 1893, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
Golaghat	Naga Hills district.	Doyang	"	20,230 40,586	32 63	No. 28, dated the 31st July 1898, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.

Sibsagar..

Forest Department, Assam.—Area of Reserved Forests on 1st July 1896—continued.

Division.	Range.	Civil district or territory.	Name of forest.	Area.		No. and date of Notification in the <i>Assam Gazette</i> .	Original Notifications.
				Acres.	Equivalent in square miles.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sibsagar... (contd.).	Golághát ...	Naga Hills district.	Nambor ...	245,115	387	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878. No. 64R., dated the 27th September 1894, section 28 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891. No. 904R., dated the 22nd March 1895, section 28 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891. No. 937R., dated the 13th March 1896, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891. No. 1214R., dated the 9th April 1898, section 28 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	<i>Calcutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 6th August 1872, section 2 of Act VII of 1865. <i>Assam Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 12th December 1874, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	"	Ditto	Mikir Hill	51,840	81	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878. No. 24, dated the 7th October 1882, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	<i>Calcutta Gazette</i> , Notification dated the 13th March 1873, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	"	Ditto	Upper Dai-gurung.	5,312	8	No. 4, dated the 18th January 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto					

"	Ditto	Lower Dai- gung.	5,120	8	Ditto	ditto.
"	Ditto	Kaloni	51,840	81	No. 47, dated the 6th August 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
"	Ditto	Diphu	42,040	66	No. 25, dated the 13th April 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
"	Ditto	Kengma	34,400	54	No. 904R, dated the 22nd March 1886, section 28 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
"	Ditto	Total	560,741	876	No. 25, dated the 13th April 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
Dibrugarh	Lakhimpur district.	Dehingnukh	13,747	22	No. 22, dated the 31st March 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
"	Ditto	Jokai	11,858	19	No. 32, dated the 27th May 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
"	Ditto	Dibru	56,189	88	No. 1790-R, dated the 4th June 1880, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
North Lakhimpur.	Ditto	Ehorolowah	5,280	8	No. 48, dated the 5th August 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
Ditto	Ditto	Kadam	13,626	21	No. 8, dated the 20th February 1888, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
Makum	Ditto	Upper Dehing	148,691	232	No. 12, dated the 23rd March 1888, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
"	Ditto	Jaipur	24,985	39	No. 37, dated the 18th October 1888, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	Total		274,376	429		

Forest Department, Assam.—Area of Reserved Forests on 1st July 1896—concluded.

Division.	Range.	Civil District or territory.	Name of forest.	Area.		No. and date of Notification in the <i>Assam Gazette</i> .	Original Notifications.
				Acres.	Equivalent in square miles.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Khasi and Jaintia Hills.	Jowai	Khasi and Jaintia Hills district.	Saipang	32,000	60	No. 5, dated the 17th October 1878, section 34 of Act VII of 1878.	<i>Assam Gazette</i> , Notification No. 26, dated the 25th July 1876, section 2 of Act VII of 1865.
	Shillong	Ditto	Riat Khwan	967	2	No. 806B, dated the 5th March 1892, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
			Total	32,967	52		
	Northern	Garo Hills district.	Jinari	6,640	10	No. 23, dated the 19th June 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto	China and Langshi.	9,258	15	Ditto ditto. No. 2459-B, dated the 10th July 1895, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	
	"	Ditto	Dhima	5,760	9	No. 28, dated the 19th June 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.	
	"	Ditto	Dilma	1,120	2	Ditto ditto.	
	"	Ditto	Raja Simla...	4,328	7	Ditto ditto.	
	"	Ditto				No. 2490B, dated the 10th July 1895, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.	

"	"	Ditto	"	Hidai	"	1,280	2	No. 23, dated the 10th June 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	Derugiri	"	2,448	4	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	"	Rongrengiri	"	8,860	14	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	"	Dambu	"	4,472	7	No. 8, dated the 12th March 1885, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	Songsac	"	8,005	13	No. 2491 R., dated the 10th July 1895, section 17 of Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891.
"	"	Ditto	"	Emangiri	"	2,080	3	No. 29, dated the 1st October 1885, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	Rewak	"	1,280	2	No. 44, dated the 7th November 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	Sija	"	1,280	2	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	"	Bagmara	"	12,320	19	Ditto ditto.
"	"	Ditto	"	Angratoli	"	9,138	14	No. 12, dated the 24th February 1887, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
Western	"	Ditto	"	Dibru Hill	"	6,080	9	No. 3, dated the 26th January 1889, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	Bolsalgi	"	640	1	No. 28, dated the 19th June 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
"	"	Ditto	"	Tura	"	480	"	No. 44, dated the 7th November 1883, section 19 of Act VII of 1878.
						86,960	134	Ditto ditto.
						2,353,455	3,685	
						TOTAL RE-SERVED FORESTS.		

Garo Hills

Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.
1	2	3	4
Kámrúp ...	<p><i>Rani forest.</i></p> <p>II Myang block ...</p> <p><i>Hajo forest.</i></p>	<p>PRIVILEGES GRANTED IN RESERVED FORESTS.</p> <p>The privilege of cutting grass and firewood within the reserve has been granted to the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages subject to such rules as may from time to time be made to ensure the safety of this forest :</p> <p>Satgaon, Bahapara, Kacharipara, Rangapara, Rajapara, Ambari, Sajanpara, Dogapara, Jubai, Patgaon, Rajapanichanda, Upar Panichanda, Ajbara, Chakarada, Deochotal, Maghnagaon, Dapara, Pamohi, Maimakhurong, Kalapara, Ghurapara, Nargaon, Allibari, Dhankhola, Kanhikuchi, Norilang, Saturgaon, Goriapara, Mailata, Andujuli.</p>	26th July 1882.
Ditto ...	The Pao Mecca Hill block.	<p>An area of three acres at the top of Pao Mecca Hill surrounding the mosque is assigned to the Khadim and his successors in office in perpetuity. The present path leading to the mosque on the west side of the hill to a breadth of six feet is excluded from the reserve, and a right of way is reserved to a small shrine to the east of the temple. The Khadim is permitted to collect firewood and thatching-grass free of cost for the <i>bonâ fide</i> use of the mosque and the pilgrims who visit it, subject to such rules as may from time to time be made to ensure the safety of the reserve. He is also permitted to cut and collect, free of cost, under a pass, such dead sál timber or posts as may be necessary from time to time for the repair of the mosque and the out-houses attached to it, but such timber may not be taken down from the hill or used for any purposes besides those stated, subject also to the observance of due caution as regards fire, and attention to the Forest Rules. The Khadim and his followers are further permitted to collect fruits and fetch water from the hill on the distinct understanding</p>	25th August 1883.

Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.
1	2	3	4
		that the Khadim will be held personally responsible for the acts of his followers and the pilgrims visiting the mosque. The right to all trees and other forest-produce standing on the 3 acres of land set apart for the temple site is also vested in the Khadim absolutely, and this area is left revenue free to him and his successors in office in perpetuity. All the above concessions are, it is to be understood, subject to such restrictions as may hereafter be prescribed.	
Darrang ...	Nowduar forest ...	The Akas claim the privileges of fishing and grazing their cattle in the reserve, the area over which these privileges are to be entered has been defined as follows: <i>North.</i> —The foot of the Aka Hills. <i>East.</i> —The Khari Dikrai river. <i>South and West.</i> —The Bhoroli river.	17th October 1878.
Ditto ...	First addition to the Khalingduar forest.	The village of Hatimatikoah situated on the right bank of the Nonai river in Bhutan, immediately beyond the British boundary line, and consisting of 9 houses with 20 inhabitants, and possessing about 40 head of cattle, have had the privilege of grazing their cattle in this reserve on the right bank of the Nonai river continued to them, on the condition that they do not set fire to any jungle in or near this reserve, that they do not cut, destroy or injure any of the trees in the reserve, and that they do not collect or attempt to collect forest-produce of any description in the reserve, and that this right be confined to the open line of land at the north-eastern corner of the reserve. This privilege is not to extend to any new comers. The public, when travelling to or from the Bhutan Hills by the foot-path running along the bed of the Nonai river, and sometimes on the right bank of that river, have	10th September 1879.

Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.
1	2	3	4
		had the right to encamp in the dry bed of that river continued to them, as well as the grazing of their cattle, horses, or other animals that they may have with them in the vicinity of their encampment, and the privilege of collecting dry fuel from the bed of the same river, or within 150 feet from it on the right bank, whilst encamped on the river.	
Darrang ...	Second addition to the Charduar reserve.	The northern and eastern boundaries of this reserve remain the same as gazetted in notification No. 27, dated the 19th July 1888. The present alterations in the southern and western boundaries were made with a view to give up about 21·12 acres of land for the exercise of the privilege of grazing, granted to the raiyyats of Kacharigaon, and thereby to relieve the reserve of this burden, with effect from the 20th August 1889. The area thus excluded is a strip of land along the southern boundary of the second addition to the Charduar reserve, extending for a length of about 55 chains due east from the left bank of the Deputa river, and is of an average width (south to north) of 5·47 chains.	20th August 1889.
Nowgong ...	Diju forest ...	Right of way for constructing a tram granted to the Salona Tea Company through the Diju reserve along the south side and nearly parallel with the Borghat-Lengting road, cutting the boundary line on the east between boundary pillars 150 and 151 and on the west cutting the Diju river as shown in the map of the addition to the Diju valley reserve, and is 66·50 chains in length as shown on the map of Diju reserve. The Company is allowed to fell timber free of charge on the above strip to a width of 150 feet. See letter No. 8071G., dated 1st October 1890, from Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, letter	30th September 1891.

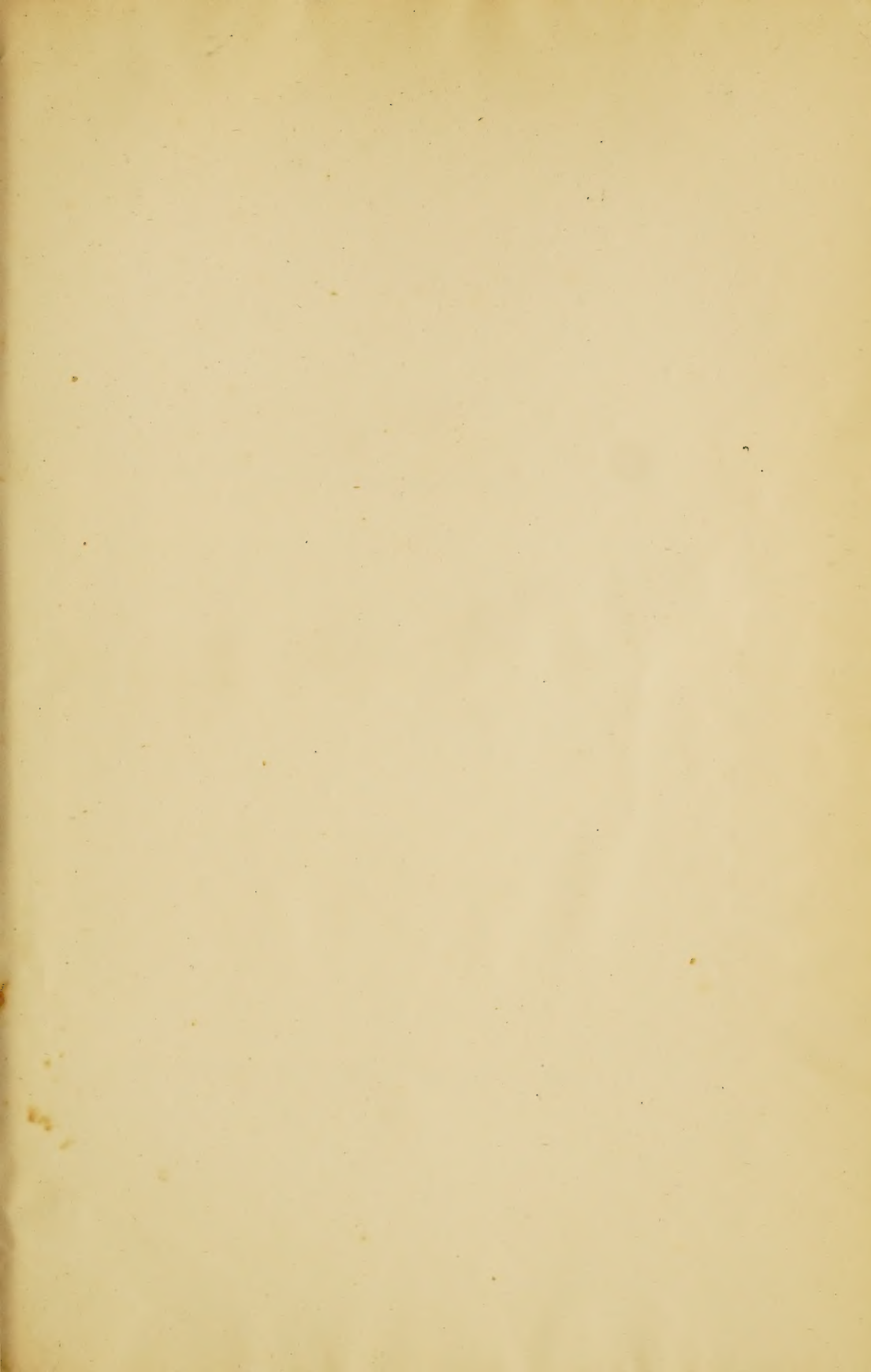
Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.																		
1	2	3	4																		
Nowgong ...	Sonalkusi forest ...	<p>No. 1028F., dated 14th September 1891, from Under-Secretary, Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, and letter No. 3769R. of 30th September 1891, from the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner to the Conservator of Forests, Assam.</p> <p>The privilege of grazing cattle and of obtaining unreserved timber and firewood from the Sonalkusi reserve is continued for the present to the inhabitants of the undermentioned 19 villages :</p> <table><tr><td>Nakhola.</td><td>Amlighat.</td></tr><tr><td>Photasil.</td><td>Deobal.</td></tr><tr><td>Bhangaraguri.</td><td>Sendesur.</td></tr><tr><td>Sarankushi.</td><td>Nizgobha.</td></tr><tr><td>Markangkushi.</td><td>Kamar kushi.</td></tr><tr><td>Belguri.</td><td>Garam "</td></tr><tr><td>Doyang.</td><td>Gaolia "</td></tr><tr><td>Tagaria.</td><td>Suana "</td></tr><tr><td>Kabikushi.</td><td>Kotori.</td></tr></table> <p>Nowgong.</p>	Nakhola.	Amlighat.	Photasil.	Deobal.	Bhangaraguri.	Sendesur.	Sarankushi.	Nizgobha.	Markangkushi.	Kamar kushi.	Belguri.	Garam "	Doyang.	Gaolia "	Tagaria.	Suana "	Kabikushi.	Kotori.	17th March 1887.
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Ditto ...	Second addition the Kholahat forest.	<p>The privilege of grazing cattle and of obtaining unreserved timber and firewood from this forest for a period of 20 years, subject to renewal hereafter, if necessary, has been granted to the inhabitants of the undermentioned 15 villages.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Khola, comprising Khuplang Kuchi, Gobhaligaon, and Kacharigaon.2. Barparagaon.3. Darapani.4. Dahaligaon.5. Makariagaon.6. Nelly.7. Khoapur.8. Balichora9. Marjang.10. Sohori.11. Bhalukmari.12. Amsaigaon.13. Bura Rajagaon.14. Kemarugaon.15. Balikuchi.	25th November 1887.																		

Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.
1	2	3	4
		The above privilege has been extended to new comers in Revenue Department order No. 2896, dated the 29th September 1888.	
Nowgong ...	Addition to the Doboka forest.	The inhabitants of the undermentioned three villages, comprising 31 houses, inhabited by 72 people, are allowed to remain in the reserve until they may wish to change their village sites, as they are obliged to do every few years when selecting new land for <i>jhuming</i> ; the latter mode of cultivation in the reserve has been strictly prohibited : 1. Hargaon. 2. Taranghegaon. 3. Moirabanggaon.	13th December 1887.
Sibságar ...	Solah forest ...	Two pathways now existing, called, respectively, the Dighalibari road and Hakongaon Ali, which meet in the forest and connect the bordering rice-fields, will remain open for the use of the public.	14th September 1882.
Ditto ...	Nambor forest ...	The villagers of Barhala are allowed to obtain their firewood from the reserve, and timber for domestic and farming purposes is granted to them free, on application to the Divisional Forest-Officer. Chief Commissioner's No. 86-T., dated the 1st February 1888, to the address of the Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills, regarding the settlement of cultivators in Deolia, Ahumani, Tengari, Dubarani, Hingimari, Kordoiguri and Dhamukia pathars in the Nambor reserve. Chief Commissioner's letter No. 231F.—3822R., dated the 14th September 1896, granting the concession of quarrying stone by the Public Works Department in 43·72 acres of land in the Nambor reserve, Naga Hills district, and directing that the existing practice	17th October 1878.

Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.
1	2	3	4
		under which the department enters upon the land and works the quarry should not be interfered with.	
Sibságar ...	Mikir Hill forest...	The Mikir villagers, a migratory race, are allowed to remain in the forest on their old village sites and fields until they give up those, when they have to settle outside the reserve, where inferior forest land exists in great abundance.	17th October 1878.
Ditto ...	Kalioni forest ...	The inhabitants of Kalioni village have been granted the privilege of grazing their cattle in this reserve and of fishing in the Kalioni river during the pleasure of Government. There are eight very small villages the inhabitants of which have been allowed to remain until they may wish to change their village sites, as they are obliged to do every few years when selecting new land for <i>jhuming</i> ; the latter mode of cultivation in the reserve has been strictly prohibited.	5th August 1887.
Ditto ...	Doyang ...	Villagers of Kalujan (64 houses) and Jamugevri (45 houses) for a period of 10 years are allowed, for each house:—4 unreserved trees, 400 bamboos, 20 bundles canes, and 200 maunds of firewood, for home consumption only and not for sale or barter, and to graze 150 and 100 head of cattle respectively. These privileges to be exercised up to a distance of 4 miles to the east and up to the junction of the Kasoijan with the Doyang in the south, which is 5 miles more or less.	19th April 1898.
Lakhimpur	Jokai forest ...	The following rights-of-way have been admitted in this reserve : 1. Path leading from Bolai tea garden to Bolai village. 2. Path leading from Bolai village to the Sessa river near Lepetkata pathar.	27th May 1887.

Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.
1	2	3	4
		<p>3. Path leading from Kasamari <i>bil</i> near the Dehing to Khamtigaon and Bolai-gaon.</p> <p>The inhabitants of Bolai and Khapti villages have been granted the privilege of grazing their cattle on the two colonies crossed by the above path No. 2.</p>	
Lakhimpur	Kadam forest ...	The inhabitants of the village of Dyaniya have been granted the privilege of keeping their existing houses, four in number, and seven granaries where they are within this reserve as long as they please to do so, and to graze their cattle.	20th February 1888.
Ditto ...	Jaipur forest ...	The several paths hitherto used by the Nágas through the forest will be kept open to them.	19th October 1888.
Ditto ...	Upper Dehing forest	<p>The privilege of cutting <i>Tokopot</i>, the leaves of <i>Livistona Jenkinseana</i>, in this forest has been granted by the Chief Commissioner to the inhabitants of villages Moongaon, Neltamgaon, Manmock, Khamtigaon, and Powaigaon for ten years. The privilege of using the bank of the Dehing river within this reserve for towing boats and for encamping and lighting fires, has also been granted by the Chief Commissioner for the same period of ten years to all travellers.</p> <p>A small private tea-garden of a few acres, situated on the right bank of the Digboi <i>nadi</i>, about two miles east of the western boundary, is included in this reserve.</p>	23rd March 1888.
Gáro Hills ...	Angratoli forest ...	A small area of 16 <i>bighas</i> of leased <i>rupit</i> land (<i>pattas</i> Nos. 237 and 238), and two houses with their sites, all belonging to Bancha and Watha Gáros, are included in this reserve.	26th January 1888.

Division.	Name of reserve.	Privileges allowed.	Date of settlement.
1	2	3	4
Garo Hills ...	Addition to the Chima Bangshi reserved forest.	The public have the right-of-way along the existing Damra-Dambu cart-road and the Damra-Bangshi foot-path within the forest reserve.	10th July 1895.
Ditto ...	Addition to the Dambu reserved forest.	The public have the right-of-way along the existing foot-path or track from Damra to Dambu within the forest reserve.	Ditto.



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